THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL,
A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE
CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE
AND VALUABLE READING
FOR THE FAMILY!
TERMS OF THE WEEKLY.
Per Year, (in advance,) $2 00
In Clubs of Twenty 1 50
One copy gratis, to the getter-up of the Club.
The money must always accompany the Order, and no paper(s) can (save in cases of renewal) be forwarded, unless the Postmasters are requested to act as agents.
Address
COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

THERE'S WORK ENOUGH TO DO.

The blackbird early leaves its nest
To greet the coming morn,
And gathering fragments for its nest
From upland, wood and lawn;
The busy bee flings wide its sac,
Mid sweets of varied hue
At every flower would seem to say—
"There's work enough to do."

The cowslip and the spreading vine,
The damp in the grass
The sun-drop and the eglantine,
Preach sermons as we pass.
The bird who hides its head in deep,
Would but its labor woo,
And writes upon its tiny beak—
"There's work enough to do."

To have a heart for those who weep,
The sadness drunkard wife;
To rescue all the friendless, deep
In ignorance and sin;
To help the poor, the hungry feed,
To give Bible coat and shoe;
To feed that all can write or read,
"There's work enough to do."

The time is short—the world is wide,
And much has to be done;
The wonders earth, as well its pride,
Will vanish with the sun!
The moments fly on lightning wings,
And life's unheeded too,
Why, little heart, with such things—
"There's work enough to do."

The planets, at their Maker's will,
Move nightly in the sky;
Fortune's wheels never still—
Progressive as the stars!
The leaves that shake in the air,
And summer breezes woo
One solemn truth to man declare—
"There's work enough to do."

Who then can sleep when all around
Is active, fresh and free?
Shall a human heart's need be found
Love-lore, then the bee?
Our creeds and all eyes are the field,
If them we'll search then through,
The best the soul to labor yield.
And work enough to do."

MATTERS MATRIMONIAL.

When I was a little slip of a girl,
The artless and young of a prude,
The men, as I called them, were "pretty dear"
Which, I must say, I thought rather rude;
Eh Sir?
Which, I must say, I thought rather rude.

However, said I, when I'm once in my teens,
I'm sure I'll come to worry me thro;
But as I grew older I found to my chagrin
Such impudent things were the men,
Are the men, then,
Such impudent things are the men.

But off all the bold things I would ever suppose,
My heart would fly into my throat,
Was that of my buried I couldn't sit right,
When he actually gave me a kiss.
Ah! he then,
When he actually gave me a kiss.

I quickly reproved him, but ah, in such tones,
That ere we were half through the lecture,
My anger to another, he gave me another—
Such strange, coaxing things are the men,
Are the men, etc. the men,
Such strange, coaxing things are the men.

Senor Romero, the Mexican Minister in Washington, is about to marry his boarding house keeper.

It has been judicially decided that a married woman's clothes belong to herself and not to her husband.

Two lieutenants of a negro regiment, stationed in New Mexico, slaughtered each other on account of a faithless wife.

The Sultan of Turkey is building a hothouse at an expense of $100,000. With the number of wives he has, we should think he had a hot-house at home always.

Mr. Thompson, twenty years of age, and Miss Judith Miller, less than fourteen, were married in Ohio county, Kentucky, the other day.

Formerly five children might be counted for each marriage in France; at the commencement of the century that number fell to four; and now each marriage hardly produces three children in the country and two in Paris.

A fair faced flirt lately jilted a young man in Iowa. He tried to shoot the jilt, but failing in that, he shot and killed himself.

"Is it possible, Miss, that you don't know the names of some of your best friends?" inquired a gentleman of a lady. "Certainly," she replied, "I don't even know what my own name will be a year hence."

"Were you guarded in your conduct while in New York?" said a father to his son, who had just returned from his visit to the city. "Yes, sir, part of the time by two policemen."

Scene: Young lovers on the balcony. Time, evening. Mr. Billen—"Oh, how calm, how sweet and peaceful the moon looks!" Miss Billen—"Yes, and I think you think it looks very conspicuous?"

Major Cleary, of one of the British regiments in Canada, has been court-martialled for going to England to get married after leave had been refused.

A teacher said to a little girl at school, "If a naughty girl should hurt you, like a good little girl, you would forgive her, wouldn't you?" "Yes, sir," she replied, "if I couldn't catch her!"

A married lady of Detroit sold her rag bag for one dollar, and afterwards remembered that she had de osited the sum of $190 in it for safe keeping.

The flirtations and pleasant tetes-a-tetes between the clerks of the New York Postoffice and the young women who call for answers to personal advertisements are complained of as nuisances.

"I think," said a wife who could not agree with her husband—"I think, Mr. Jibbs, we had better divide the house. You shall live on one side and I on the other." "Very well, my dear," replied he; "you take the outside and I'll have the inside."

Brigham Young is luxuriating in the honeymoon of his forty-fifth bride, a beautiful Danish girl of seventeen. He has just lost his twenty-fourth wife, who was buried without any new ceremony, or even a notice of her death.

A paper asks very innocently if it is any harm to sit in the *lapse* of ages. Another replies that it all depends on the kind of *ages* selected. Those from eighteen to twenty-five, it puts down as extra hazardous.

A Gipsy woman promised to show two young ladies their husbands' faces in a pail of water. They looked, and exclaimed: "Why, we only see our faces." "Well," said the Gipsy, "those faces will be your husbands' when you get married."

Lord Brougham has talked with a lady who lived in the reign of Charles II.; she was his great aunt, who died at the age of one hundred and six, in the year 1789. Longevity runs in the Brougham family: Lord Brougham's grandfather died at ninety three and his mother at eighty-nine.

At Hastings, on the Hudson, a beautiful Irish girl, Mary Hayes, waded into the river with her child aged nine months, and held it under water until it was drowned. She was making preparations to drown herself when discovered. It is the old story of man's perfidy and woman's ruin.

The divorce case of Morse vs. Morse, at Madison, Wisconsin, has been determined by a verdict of $15,000, and alimony in favor of the lady. She was seventeen years of age, and her husband, who was a wealthy Monroe man, was married to her after treating her brutally, and then with casting her off without a penny.

A Paris correspondent tells an old story of a wilful wife and a husband beginning to be rebellious. The husband accepted an invitation to a bachelor's supper; the wife declared he should not go, unless she went also, and he reiterated his determination. The gentleman not appearing at the convivial board at the hour appointed, his friends set out to look for him, and were amazed to find both husband and wife asleep in their chairs in their own dining-room. Each, unaware of the other's purpose, had mingled a narcotic powder in the other's wine to keep the other at home, and each was caught in the trap. The friends enjoyed the hearty laugh; but a suit for a divorce is pending.

A London correspondent writing upon modern marriages in Paris, says: "I went to the church to assist at the marriage of a distant relation. The nuptial ceremony was delayed, as too often the case, by a funeral service. The friends of the bride and bridegroom soon crowded the church, and bravely was the coffin covered up, but the new bward coffin did not stop them for a second, they placed themselves around it, their dresses and coats grazed the pall, the gentlemen shook hands over the corpse, the ladies exchanged sweet smiles and charming greetings with the band, those *petit bonjour* which only Parisian ladies know how to distribute so completely, and all this took place across two lines of funeral tapers. These mundane politenesses in church, that impious indifference for the dead, was a horrible and revolting sight, and yet not one noted or astonished, except myself."

An Indigo Mine in Colorado.

Some of our readers, says the Central City (Col.) *Register*, will remember an item which was published extensively, to the effect that an indigo mine had been discovered near San Francisco. Just such another may be seen any day on James Creek. For a mile or more along the banks of the stream flour spar in the impure form of Rocaffite has been deposited, perhaps by an overflow of lodes on the hill sides above, and the whole mass is of an indigo blue color, is quite fine grained and very closely resembles indigo. It does not dissolve, however, so readily in water. Into the beds of this mineral, perhaps forty shafts have been sunk, each about ten feet deep, that he had struck a silver mine. Most miners there call it ruby silver ore, though it probably does not contain a trace of that metal. The striking of these indigo mines will prove a disappointment to many a hard-working miner. These immense deposits of flour spar may yet become very valuable, as alkaline will dissolve quartz and render it liquid.

Butchers' Meat and the Jews.

Probably few people in this country are aware that there exists a numerous class of persons who will not eat a single morsel of meat killed by a butcher. They would rather eschew beef altogether than cook any portion of the carcasses which are sent into the city from the country. All animal food, of whatever kind, partaken by them must have had life taken away by the sacrificial knife of their priest alone, and only his warrant is accepted as a guarantee for its soundness. Twice a week, in their slaughter houses, the Jewish priest kills, as did Aaron of old, the bullocks and sheep which serve for the food for the eighteen or twenty Jewish families in Edinburgh, over whom he is spiritual ruler. These animals are not slaughtered in the usual way—that is, they are not killed by a pole-axe before they are bled. Having been tied up by the neck to a ring in the side of the wall, the fore legs of the victim are shackled by the priest, the hind legs are then tightly tied firmly together by a rope, which is long enough to pass from the hind legs round the shackle on the front and back again. This rope is then pulled with strength sufficient to draw the four legs close together, when the animal of course tumbles. The rope around the neck is then removed, the beast lying helplessly bound upon the ground. The priest now commences his slaying operations; and as he appeared in his character of butcher on Wednesday, he certainly was as unlike the popular ideal of a spiritual adviser as could possibly be imagined. Dressed in what is called his "killing clothes"—a long coat, greasy and as glazed with age and dirt as ever any son of Abraham wore, so tattered and torn that it would have taken as many patches as Joseph's coat had colors to have mended it, and a black skull cap on, the priest entered the booth, smoking a cutty pipe.

When the bullock had been thrown down in the manner described, he brought out a long-bladed, ivory-handled knife, in size something like that with which ham is cut in grocers' shops. The blade would be about fifteen or sixteen inches long, and from one and a half to two inches broad, thick on the back, but with an edge sharp as a razor. No Gentile fingers are permitted to polish by their touch this consecrated weapon, the priest having always to sharpen it himself. This he does in a very dexterous manner, a knowledge of which, as well as everything forming a necessary part of the priestly education. Having satisfied himself, by drawing his thumb two or three times up and down the edge, that the knife is sharp enough, the priest has the head of the beast about to be killed so bent back as to force its throat prominently forward, when, with one cut he lays it open from ear to ear. The death struggles of the animal are agonizing to witness. The beast being dead, the ordinary butchering is then gone in the usual manner. An incision is made under the beast, into which the priest thrusts his hand to examine the internal organs. If they are found healthy, and free of the reflection attached to the sides, the beast is condemned, and another must be slaughtered; as indeed there must also be if the first cut is not deep enough, or a few drops of blood do not flow. On one occasion, some years ago, as many as fifteen excellent animals had to be destroyed before the priest got one to satisfy himself. Meat thus killed is called "trifa," and that passing is called "coshu." Only the fore quarters of the animal are eaten by Jews, as in Edinburgh, although we believe that in London the hind quarters are also used for food.

Wherever there is a vein in the flesh, it must be carefully cut, or, as it is technically called, "purged" out by the priest, in accordance with the injunction in the 17th verse of the 3d chapter of Leviticus—"It shall be a perpetual statute for your generations throughout all your dwellings, that you eat neither fat nor blood," and in obedience to the 15th verse of the same chapter, the Jews refuse to touch the fat of the sinew that shrank when he took them. The two kidneys or the fat that is upon them, which is by the flanks, and the caul above the liver with the two kidneys, must be taken away." The only fat made use of by the Jews is that known as the skirts, which the uncircumcised dispose of to the fellow Christians, by whom it is rendered, and the fore quarters cut off by the twelfth rib, the priest marks the meat with a seal, upon which is engraved certain Hebrew characters, and also likewise marks it with ink in various places. These are guarantees to the faithful when they go to the butcher that the beef is "coshu." When he purchases the butcher, the meat is cut up by him in pieces to suit his Jewish customers, the priest having previously "purged" every joint. The inquisitive person who sees the pieces of meat by the Jews, differ from those commonly in use. Thus, the thick end of the shoulder they designate "boila," the spare rib "ovel," and the sirloin "ribb," the coarse end of the roast "chuck," the runner "top rib" and "double top rib," according to the cut. Meat, even when passed by the priest, cannot be sold as "coshar," or clean, for more than three days after a beast has been slaughtered; but it can be made "coshar" again by being immersed in water. Before cooking the Jews again "coshar" the meat at their own homes, by dipping it in a basin of clean water. They then place it upon a board turned upside down, and sprinkle it with salt, the effect of which treatment is to draw out all the blood, which runs down the sides of the perforated dish. After being once more steeped in pure water, it is ready for the fire.—*The Scotsman.*

The Housekeeper.

CHRISTMAS PLUM PUDDINGS.—We shall give our readers this and the following week several receipts for the making of plum puddings, from which they will be able to make a selection to suit their several tastes—and pockets:

Suet, chopped fine, six ounces; raisins, stoned, etc., eight ounces; bread-crumbs, six ounces; three eggs, a wineglassful of brandy, a little milk; four ounces candied lemon, one ounce citron, one-half ounce. Beat the eggs and spice well together; mix the milk by degrees, then the rest of the ingredients. Dip a fine, close, linen cloth into boiling water, and put into a sieve (hair), flour it a little, and tie up close. Put the pudding into a saucepan containing *six quarts* of boiling water; keep a kettle of boiling water alongside, and fill it up as it wastes. Let it boil to keep it boiling at least six hours. Serve with any sauce.

Another.—A pound of suet, cut in pieces not too fine, a pound of currants, and a pound of raisins stoned, four eggs, half a grated nutmeg, an ounce of citron and lemon-peel, shred fine, a teaspoonful of beaten ginger, half a pound of bread-crumbs, half a pound of flour, and a pint of milk; beat the eggs first, add half the milk, beat them together, and by degrees stir in the flour, beating well; chop suet and fruit, and as much milk as will mix it together very thick; then take a clean cloth, dip in boiling water, and squeeze dry. While the water is boiling fast, put in your pudding, which should boil at least five hours.

Still Another.—Seven ounces raisins, seeded and a little chopped; seven ounces currants, well washed and pickled; one and a half ounce citron; three ounces of candied sugar, powdered; one and a half ounces of a nutmeg, grated; one quarter of a teaspoonful of cinnamon; five eggs well beaten up; four tablespoonsful of wheat flour; half a lemon peel, grated; a wineglass of brandy and one glass of Madeira; a little milk to mix, sufficient to make rather a thick batter. The whole must be well mixed, then put into a mould that is oiled and well buttered basin. Tie a pudding cloth over, and pin the four corners over the top. Put into boiling water, and let be kept boiling; will require seven hours.

DELICIOUS MINCE PIES.—Take a pound of the undressed under-cut of a sirloin of beef, mince it very fine indeed, put it into a pie-dish, cover it with a bit of suet, and put it into a moderately hot oven till it is cooked; drain off the fat from it thoroughly, and mix in two ounces of fresh butter, and half an ounce of finely-grated allspice, four large apples pared, cored, and chopped very fine, and mixed in; half a pound of Sultana raisins washed and chopped very fine, and three quarters of a pound of currants well washed; three tablespoonfuls of moist sugar; three ounces of candied orange-peel (not lemon), chopped rather fine. Mix the whole of these ingredients well together; then place a half-pound preserve jar of raspberry jam in boiling water, but without letting any water enter, and without uncovering the jar; when the jam is dissolved; then strain the jam over the ingredients, taking care not to let the slightest portion of the seeds escape; throw these latter away, then mix the whole together, adding a little cellent and simple paste for these or any other pies is thus made:—Weigh a pound of flour, and half a pound of sweet butter; rub the butter into half of the flour; *and after this, the hands must not touch it. The whole process must now be continued with a spoon, a knife, and the tips of the fingers.* Add to the rest of the flour, and mix it with a spoon; the paste must be very dry, or it will be very heavy; now roll it in a long strip; with the point of the knife place half the lard or butter in tiny bits, over the whole; sift a little flour over, with the point of the knife fold the paste over in narrow folds, and roll it out again in the same way. *Never turn the paste round.* With the remainder of the lard, act precisely the same again; after this second rolling, fold it the same way again, and roll over lightly to a sufficient thickness for the covers of the pies; then turning the patty-pans downwards on the paste, but without pressure, cut the paste round it. Have a border ready; then roll out and line patty pans; then fill them with the mince meat; put on the covers without wiping the edges, and bake them in a very *quick* oven for a few minutes, or as long as necessary; but the quicker the better, so that they are sufficiently cooked. When the pies are nearly cold, lift the cover of each, and pour over the mince a teaspoonful of brandy. These will keep good for three weeks. *The peculiarity in these pies is, that no suet is used, which agrees but with few people, and that the juice of the raspberry gives them an indescribable but delicious flavor.*

LEMON CAKE.—Beat six eggs, the yolks and whites separately, till in a solid froth; add to the yolks the grated rind of a fine lemon and six ounces sugar dried and sifted; beat this a quarter of an hour; shake in with the left hand six ounces of dried flour; then add the whites of the eggs and the juice of the lemon; when these are well beaten in, put it immediately into tins, and bake it about an hour in a moderately hot oven.

GINGER SPONGE CAKE—One cup of molasses, one cup of butter, two cups of sugar, four eggs, three cups of flour, one cup of milk soda, and ginger.

FRENCH JUMBLES.—One pound and a half of flour, one pound of sugar, three-quarters of a pound of butter, three eggs; dissolve one teaspoonful of soda in one half cup of milk; add this, also then nutmeg, and roll out the dough, and cut into sun all cakes of any shape, and bake them in a quick oven.

SOFT GINGERBREAD—Two cups of butter, two cups of sugar, two cups of molasses, one cup of milk, four eggs, a tea-spoonful of pearlash, five cups of flour, two tablespoonfuls of ginger, two teaspoonfuls of allspice, one teaspoonful of cinnamon.

COOKIES—Five cups of flour, two cups of sugar, one of butter, one egg, one teaspoonful of saleratus; cut it into small cakes.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE.

Report of the Commissioner.

In the existence of a ponderous war debt and the nation's honorable pledge for the payment of its current interest charge, and ultimate extinction principal, we readily find ample cause for the general solicitude as to the sufficiency and permanency of national income. This for the purposes of wealth, product and trade spirit, have not only equaled but exceeded the Government's needs. They have formed a great reliance for the payment of the debt, and cheerfully responded to every change called for by public emergency. The report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue is a satisfactory exhibit of ample resources and prompt collections.

REVENUE OF 1866

The amount of internal revenue for the fiscal year 1866, $311,000,000, exceeds that of the two next preceding years, and is very considerably in excess of the largest revenue for 1865 from customs, excise, stamps, property tax and post office, and is but $2,000,000 less than the entire revenue of the United Kingdom. Yet it was not raised, as Commissioner Rollins assures us, with less pressure upon the people than that imposed by us in preceding years. Greater skill and a spirit of accommodation have prevented a large portion of the burdens which, if carried in smaller amounts in previous years. Enterprise and wealth are rapidly multiplying the means for the extinction of the national debt, and it is supposed that these taxes have not borne heavily upon certain classes, especially large producers. If they do not, the reasons for the reflection that certainly were the current expenses of the administration and interest on the national debt was thus gradually wearing away. Reduction of taxes will follow the reduction of debt, and in a few years both will cease to be an object of public anxiety.

SOURCES AND IN REASE OF REVENUE.

A reporting system having been established in one hundred and forty collection districts, and calling for four hundred and twenty schedule returns, can only be briefly epitomized here. It is, however, of great value, as almost every article in the land is affected by it. The annual growth of incomes as shown in the Report by comparisons of 1864, '65 and '66, in the offenses in receipts, and increasing efficiency in the administration of the department. Income for 1866, $127,169,779; '65, $72,437,826; '64, $20,994,413; and (estimated) for 1867, $250,000,000; expenses of collection but about 1½ per cent, exclusive of drawbacks or collections refunded, making the actual ratio of collection expenses about 2 per cent. The number of persons and firms receiving interest upon which this revenue is based, nearly a million and a quarter, and which will continue to yield a full equivalent for the government needs. Trust, Bank, Trust Companies, Railroads, Canals, Gas, Mining and aggregate on dividends, circulation, deposits, and capital, $1,862,000,000; Insurance, $1,000,000; Insurance Companies, $1,985,000; Salaries of United States Employees, $3,347,346; Revenue stamps, $10,000,000; Legacies, $1,000,000; $8,882,049. Articles on schedule A, $102,791; Licenses, $18,000,748; increase from 1865, $3,417,162; Incomes, $72,169,779; increase from 1865, $50,732,160. Iron and steel, $15,728,133; increase from 1865, $3,000,000; Petroleum, $1,000,000; Spirits, $5,000,000; increase from 1865, $1,000,000; Tobacco, $29,183,078; increase from 1865, $15,367,527. In view of the great difficulty that has been experienced in the first year of the levy of the operations of the law, this gain is a gratifying result.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

The Commissioner recommends but few, though important changes in the law. He thinks that the United States District Attorneys, who are the prosecuting officers under the law for informations and compromises of suits, and for collectors, should be obliged to report directly to the Treasury Department, and that copies of all proceedings effecting title to lands sold. The return day for the annual list (schedule C) of the taxable objects in the several districts, at the beginning of the year. A revision of the system under which cigars are taxed, and some slight changes in the stamp duties on proprietary articles. He also urges several changes of the law in regard to distillers' bonds, and the provision authorizing collectors to interchange the inspectors of the several districts, and to destroy unsalable spirits. An increase of the amount of exempted income from $1,000 to $1,500 is also strongly recommended expedient, in view of the depreciation of currency, and enhancement of prices. A reduction of the number of taxable articles is also urged.

INCOME FOR 1867.

As we have already stated, the income for 1867 is estimated at $250,000,000, but from the uncertain character of the data upon which the estimate is based, it is also likely to be over as under that total, although the estimate for 1868 and not differ materially from the receipts realized. There is a general wish among the tuxed classes that Congress would further modify the revenue laws to the extent of any reductions, which certainly diminishing expenditures may safely allow. The reports of the Secretaries of War and Navy present a gratifying exhibit of substantial retrenchment in these Departments for the past year, and if any further diminution of the amount of tax now collected is to be made, Congress will, no doubt, conscientiously respect the country's wish for whatever relief is practicable.

NATIONAL FINANCES.

Report of the Comptroller of Currency.

The happy experience the nation has enjoyed in the operations of the National Banking system, is a conspicuous proof of Secretary Chase's wisdom and sagacity—by whom it was first devised. It has been in operation since June, 1863, and there are now in active operation 1,601 banks, with an aggregate paid in capital of $415,000,000, which is owned by 200,000 stockholders. The system has the confidence of the people, furnishes a uniform and well-secured currency, and during the past three years of existence, a most important auxiliary to the financial operations of the Treasury Department. Experience has proved but few defects in it.

The report of the Comptroller of the Currency, H. H. Huiburd, reviewing the operations of his department during the year, will be found a very interesting and instructive document. The total resources of the National Banks on the 1st of January, 1866, were $1,635,486,981; liabilities to the public for circulation and deposits, $1,021,271,986; leaving a surplus of $501,221,571 for capital and earnings. While the first, just in your pudding, which should boil at least five hours.

Still Another.—Seven ounces raisins, seeded and a little chopped; seven ounces currants, well washed and pickled: one and a half ounce citron; three ounces of candied sugar, powdered; one and a half ounces of a nutmeg, grated; one quarter of a teaspoonful of cinnamon; five eggs well beaten up; four tablespoonsful of wheat flour; half a lemon peel, grated; a wineglass of brandy and one glass of Madeira; a little milk to mix, sufficient to make rather a thick batter. The whole must be well mixed, then put into a mould that is oiled and well buttered basin. Tie a pudding cloth over, and pin the four corners over the top. Put into boiling water, and let be kept boiling; will require seven hours.

DELICIOUS MINCE PIES.—Take a pound of the undressed under-cut of a sirloin of beef, mince it very fine indeed, put it into a pie-dish, cover it with a bit of suet, and put it into a moderately hot oven till it is cooked; drain off the fat from it thoroughly, and mix in two ounces of fresh butter, and half an ounce of finely-grated allspice, four large apples pared, cored, and chopped very fine, and mixed in; half a pound of Sultana raisins washed and chopped very fine, and three quarters of a pound of currants well washed; three tablespoonfuls of moist sugar; three ounces of candied orange-peel (not lemon), chopped rather fine. Mix the whole of these ingredients well together; then place a half-pound preserve jar of raspberry jam in boiling water, but without letting any water enter, and without uncovering the jar; when the jam is dissolved; then strain the jam over the ingredients, taking care not to let the slightest portion of the seeds escape; throw these latter away, then mix the whole together, adding a little cellent and simple paste for these or any other pies is thus made:—Weigh a pound of flour, and half a pound of sweet butter; rub the butter into half of the flour; *and after this, the hands must not touch it. The whole process must now be continued with a spoon, a knife, and the tips of the fingers.* Add to the rest of the flour, and mix it with a spoon; the paste must be very dry, or it will be very heavy; now roll it in a long strip; with the point of the knife place half the lard or butter in tiny bits, over the whole; sift a little flour over, with the point of the knife fold the paste over in narrow folds, and roll it out again in the same way. *Never turn the paste round.* With the remainder of the lard, act precisely the same again; after this second rolling, fold it the same way again, and roll over lightly to a sufficient thickness for the covers of the pies; then turning the patty-pans downwards on the paste, but without pressure, cut the paste round it. Have a border ready; then roll out and line patty pans; then fill them with the mince meat; put on the covers without wiping the edges, and bake them in a very *quick* oven for a few minutes, or as long as necessary; but the quicker the better, so that they are sufficiently cooked. When the pies are nearly cold, lift the cover of each, and pour over the mince a teaspoonful of brandy. These will keep good for three weeks. *The peculiarity in these pies is, that no suet is used, which agrees but with few people, and that the juice of the raspberry gives them an indescribable but delicious flavor.*

LEMON CAKE.—Beat six eggs, the yolks and whites separately, till in a solid froth; add to the yolks the grated rind of a fine lemon and six ounces sugar dried and sifted; beat this a quarter of an hour; shake in with the left hand six ounces of dried flour; then add the whites of the eggs and the juice of the lemon; when these are well beaten in, put it immediately into tins, and bake it about an hour in a moderately hot oven.

GINGER SPONGE CAKE—One cup of molasses, one cup of butter, two cups of sugar, four eggs, three cups of flour, one cup of milk soda, and ginger.

FRENCH JUMBLES.—One pound and a half of flour, one pound of sugar, three-quarters of a pound of butter, three eggs; dissolve one teaspoonful of soda in one half cup of milk; add this, also then nutmeg, and roll out the dough, and cut into sun all cakes of any shape, and bake them in a quick oven.

SOFT GINGERBREAD—Two cups of butter, two cups of sugar, two cups of molasses, one cup of milk, four eggs, a tea-spoonful of pearlash, five cups of flour, two tablespoonfuls of ginger, two teaspoonfuls of allspice, one teaspoonful of cinnamon.

COOKIES—Five cups of flour, two cups of sugar, one of butter, one egg, one teaspoonful of saleratus; cut it into small cakes.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE.

Report of the Commissioner.

In the existence of a ponderous war debt and the nation's honorable pledge for the payment of its current interest charge, and ultimate extinction principal, we readily find ample cause for the general solicitude as to the sufficiency and permanency of national income. This for the purposes of wealth, product and trade spirit, have not only equaled but exceeded the Government's needs. They have formed a great reliance for the payment of the debt, and cheerfully responded to every change called for by public emergency. The report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue is a satisfactory exhibit of ample resources and prompt collections.

REVENUE OF 1866

The amount of internal revenue for the fiscal year 1866, $311,000,000, exceeds that of the two next preceding years, and is very considerably in excess of the largest revenue for 1865 from customs, excise, stamps, property tax and post office, and is but $2,000,000 less than the entire revenue of the United Kingdom. Yet it was not raised, as Commissioner Rollins assures us, with less pressure upon the people than that imposed by us in preceding years. Greater skill and a spirit of accommodation have prevented a large portion of the burdens which, if carried in smaller amounts in previous years. Enterprise and wealth are rapidly multiplying the means for the extinction of the national debt, and it is supposed that these taxes have not borne heavily upon certain classes, especially large producers. If they do not, the reasons for the reflection that certainly were the current expenses of the administration and interest on the national debt was thus gradually wearing away. Reduction of taxes will follow the reduction of debt, and in a few years both will cease to be an object of public anxiety.

SOURCES AND IN REASE OF REVENUE.

A reporting system having been established in one hundred and forty collection districts, and calling for four hundred and twenty schedule returns, can only be briefly epitomized here. It is, however, of great value, as almost every article in the land is affected by it. The annual growth of incomes as shown in the Report by comparisons of 1864, '65 and '66, in the offenses in receipts, and increasing efficiency in the administration of the department. Income for 1866, $127,169,779; '65, $72,437,826; '64, $20,994,413; and (estimated) for 1867, $250,000,000; expenses of collection but about 1½ per cent, exclusive of drawbacks or collections refunded, making the actual ratio of collection expenses about 2 per cent. The number of persons and firms receiving interest upon which this revenue is based, nearly a million and a quarter, and which will continue to yield a full equivalent for the government needs. Trust, Bank, Trust Companies, Railroads, Canals, Gas, Mining and aggregate on dividends, circulation, deposits, and capital, $1,862,000,000; Insurance, $1,000,000; Insurance Companies, $1,985,000; Salaries of United States Employees, $3,347,346; Revenue stamps, $10,000,000; Legacies, $1,000,000; $8,882,049. Articles on schedule A, $102,791; Licenses, $18,000,748; increase from 1865, $3,417,162; Incomes, $72,169,779; increase from 1865, $50,732,160. Iron and steel, $15,728,133; increase from 1865, $3,000,000; Petroleum, $1,000,000; Spirits, $5,000,000; increase from 1865, $1,000,000; Tobacco, $29,183,078; increase from 1865, $15,367,527. In view of the great difficulty that has been experienced in the first year of the levy of the operations of the law, this gain is a gratifying result.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

The Commissioner recommends but few, though important changes in the law. He thinks that the United States District Attorneys, who are the prosecuting officers under the law for informations and compromises of suits, and for collectors, should be obliged to report directly to the Treasury Department, and that copies of all proceedings effecting title to lands sold. The return day for the annual list (schedule C) of the taxable objects in the several districts, at the beginning of the year. A revision of the system under which cigars are taxed, and some slight changes in the stamp duties on proprietary articles. He also urges several changes of the law in regard to distillers' bonds, and the provision authorizing collectors to interchange the inspectors of the several districts, and to destroy unsalable spirits. An increase of the amount of exempted income from $1,000 to $1,500 is also strongly recommended expedient, in view of the depreciation of currency, and enhancement of prices. A reduction of the number of taxable articles is also urged.

INCOME FOR 1867.

As we have already stated, the income for 1867 is estimated at $250,000,000, but from the uncertain character of the data upon which the estimate is based, it is also likely to be over as under that total, although the estimate for 1868 and not differ materially from the receipts realized. There is a general wish among the taxed classes that Congress would further modify the revenue laws to the extent of any reductions, which certainly diminishing expenditures may safely allow. The reports of the Secretaries of War and Navy present a gratifying exhibit of substantial retrenchment in these Departments for the past year, and if any further diminution of the amount of tax now collected is to be made, Congress will, no doubt, conscientiously respect the country's wish for whatever relief is practicable.

NATIONAL FINANCES.

Report of the Comptroller of Currency.

The happy experience the nation has enjoyed in the operations of the National Banking system, is a conspicuous proof of Secretary Chase's wisdom and sagacity—by whom it was first devised. It has been in operation since June, 1863, and there are now in active operation 1,601 banks, with an aggregate paid in capital of $415,000,000, which is owned by 200,000 stockholders. The system has the confidence of the people, furnishes a uniform and well-secured currency, and during the past three years of existence, a most important auxiliary to the financial operations of the Treasury Department. Experience has proved but few defects in it.

The report of the Comptroller of the Currency, H. H. Huiburd, reviewing the operations of his department during the year, will be found a very interesting and instructive document. The total resources of the National Banks on the 1st of January, 1866, were $1,635,486,981; liabilities to the public for circulation and deposits, $1,021,271,986; leaving a surplus of $501,221,571 for capital and earnings. While the first, just in your pudding, which should boil at least five hours.

Still Another.—Seven ounces raisins, seeded and a little chopped; seven ounces currants, well washed and pickled: one and a half ounce citron; three ounces of candied sugar, powdered; one and a half ounces of a nutmeg, grated; one quarter of a teaspoonful of cinnamon; five eggs well beaten up; four tablespoonsful of wheat flour; half a lemon peel, grated; a wineglass of brandy and one glass of Madeira; a little milk to mix, sufficient to make rather a thick batter. The whole must be well mixed, then put into a mould that is oiled and well buttered basin. Tie a pudding cloth over, and pin the four corners over the top. Put into boiling water, and let be kept boiling; will require seven hours.

DELICIOUS MINCE PIES.—Take a pound of the undressed under-cut of a sirloin of beef, mince it very fine indeed, put it into a pie-dish, cover it with a bit of suet, and put it into a moderately hot oven till it is cooked; drain off the fat from it thoroughly, and mix in two ounces of fresh butter, and half an ounce of finely-grated allspice, four large apples pared, cored, and chopped very fine, and mixed in; half a pound of Sultana raisins washed and chopped very fine, and three quarters of a pound of currants well washed; three tablespoonfuls of moist sugar; three ounces of candied orange-peel (not lemon), chopped rather fine. Mix the whole of these ingredients well together; then place a half-pound preserve jar of raspberry jam in boiling water, but without letting any water enter, and without uncovering the jar; when the jam is dissolved; then strain the jam over the ingredients, taking care not to let the slightest portion of the seeds escape; throw these latter away, then mix the whole together, adding a little cellent and simple paste for these or any other pies is thus made:—Weigh a pound of flour, and half a pound of sweet butter; rub the butter into half of the flour; *and after this, the hands must not touch it. The whole process must now be continued with a spoon, a knife, and the tips of the fingers.* Add to the rest of the flour, and mix it with a spoon; the paste must be very dry, or it will be very heavy; now roll it in a long strip; with the point of the knife place half the lard or butter in tiny bits, over the whole; sift a little flour over, with the point of the knife fold the paste over in narrow folds, and roll it out again in the same way. *Never turn the paste round.* With the remainder of the lard, act precisely the same again; after this second rolling, fold it the same way again, and roll over lightly to a sufficient thickness for the covers of the pies; then turning the patty-pans downwards on the paste, but without pressure, cut the paste round it. Have a border ready; then roll out and line patty pans; then fill them with the mince meat; put on the covers without wiping the edges, and bake them in a very *quick* oven for a few minutes, or as long as necessary; but the quicker the better, so that they are sufficiently cooked. When the pies are nearly cold, lift the cover of each, and pour over the mince a teaspoonful of brandy. These will keep

The Course of the Democrats in Congress.

The Democrats in Congress are said to have agreed to watch and waste time to turn up, in the hope that, as the only chance, the Republicans will commit some excess, of which advantage can be taken. Such opposition will be made to measures, however extreme, which, considering how utterly powerless they are, is very moderate. The President in adhering to the "My Policy" doctrine, took their advice, that he might not appear to be inconsistent, although it is understood that his policy was a failure. It is evident the Democrats and the President have heard how the election went.

Thaddeus Stevens on Currency Affairs.

The Washington correspondent of the Detroit *Tribune* says Mr. Stevens is "opposed to the redemption of any of the Government bonds in *coin*, except those where the language of the act under which they were made, was explicit. He would at this session increase the amount of currency by at least one hundred millions, and then if gold naturally went up to 200, he would make it a crime to speculate in it."

THE PULPIT.

Overthrow and Reconstruction;

OR,

The Day of God's Vengeance and the Year of God's Redeemed.

A Sermon Preached in Mozart Hall, November 29th, by Rev. Herrick Johnson, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

Isa. LXIII:1-4. Who is this that cometh from Edom with dyed garments from Bozrah? This that is glorious in his apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.

Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the wine fat? I have trodden the wine-press alone, and of the people there was none with me. For I will tread them in my anger, and trample them in my fury, and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in my heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

The sword and the plough-share; the spear and the pruning hook—war and peace; revolution and reformation; overthrow and reconstruction; the day of God's vengeance and the year of God's redeemed. This is the vivid and graphic picture of my text.

A warrior comes from Edom flushed with victory, stained with the blood of his enemies. He is heralded as one mighty to save. He appears in the greatness of his strength, unweakened and unharmed by the conflict with his foe. He has been forth for right-eous vengeance. He has trodden the wine-press of great wrath. But he has destroyed that he might save. Patience of mercy as well as judgment are in his heart. From his potent hand have been dyed the garments of his glory. And he whose indignation blushes not to be called to the milder names of reformation. But the echoes of his rushing like thunders in a mighty conflict with evil. This vengeance is the presence and a determination of the warrior's vengeance and reformation in the nineteenth century.

Three great events march through the centuries. This is pictured in God's order in the world. The first is the Edenic. It grew. It began to be done by reformation. Think how much has been done by revivals and reformation.

What are the tumults of earth and the battles of war, which confound and blind the eyes of the nations, but the sound of the goings of God through the world gathering out the saints and uniting up and preparing the bride for the Lamb's supper day? I repeat it, it is a

Time of great conflict.

Time of great progress.

Time of great reformation.

Each alike ecclesiastic and oligarch, stamped the authority of God upon his own work. Each alike pretended to be done by reformation. Think how much has been done by revivals and reformation.

What are the tumults of earth and the battles of war, which confound and blind the eyes of the nations, but the sound of the goings of God through the world gathering out the saints and uniting up and preparing the bride for the Lamb's supper day? I repeat it, it is a

Time of great conflict.

Time of great progress.

Time of great reformation.

Each alike ecclesiastic and oligarch, stamped the authority of God upon his own work. Each alike pretended to be done by reformation. Think how much has been done by revivals and reformation.

What are the tumults of earth and the battles

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, December 15, 1866.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1866.

COMPULSION AND CONSENT.

There is no sentiment more correct in itself than that which is embodied in the Declaration of Independence, viz: that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. It is the foundation principle upon which our Republican system is built. Our Union was constructed under the free and full operation of this sentiment, as the preface, or adopting clause, of the Constitution clearly demonstrates—"We, the people of the United States, * * * do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." Here the consent is given. Every new State that has been admitted to the Union has given its consent formally to the same instrument. If any alteration is made in the instrument it is done by the consent of the people, expressed in such manner as the Constitution prescribes. All laws are presumed to be made in harmony with this fundamental law, and so, to have the consent of the governed. If that harmony is called in question, the issue is decided by the courts; and if the law does not accord with the Constitution, it is no law to the citizen, because he has not given his consent to it, in consenting to the Constitution.

But this sentiment, that Government derives its just authority from the consent of the governed, has been perverted and abused to the worst of purposes. It was such perversion that originated the cry of "no coercion" in the ranks of an extensive party, when the effort was made by secession to dismember the Union, and so to destroy the Government. It was an appeal in behalf of weakness, in the wrong, to ward off the exercise of power in behalf of the right. It was, in fact, making hostility to the Government an excuse for the crime of rebellion instigated by that hostility, than which nothing could be logically more absurd, nor, in its practical tendency, more subversive of all possible Government.

By the consent of the governed, it is not meant that that consent shall be formally given or received by every individual in every day of his life, nor by every State at each successive meeting of its Representatives. The Government being constituted, all who live under it are subject to its authority, and are amenable to its laws, whether they have formally given their consent or not. Would it be any excuse for crime, were a culprit to plead that he had not consented to the law against robbery, or arson, or murder? No, nor would it exempt him from the execution of the penalties upon him by the power of the Government.

But this fallacy, about consent and compulsion, is still operating in the politics of the country. And it takes such a form as, should it pervade the public mind extensively, would render all government precarious, if not impossible. For example, so grave a journal as the *National Intelligencer* says: "This Government does not rest on compulsion. The strong arm is antagonistic to its central idea, which is that of voluntary consent." This is in every way erroneous, and every way absurd. Every government implies the existence of force to be used whenever compulsion is necessary. And the 'consent' of the governed recognized in fact. 'Consent is not only an agreement to obey the laws, but an agreement also to abide the consequences of disobedience. Parental government, even, involves the right to exercise force in support of authority and law. In fact, force is the support of government. By force it confines culprits in prison, by force it executes capital offenders, by force it protects life and liberty, and secures the fulfillment of contracts and the collection of debts."

The *Intelligencer* carries the perversion of a true sentiment still further. It says the Government "cannot be perpetuated as free if any section of the people have to be held by the sword." The same kind of testimony against its freedom might be gathered from the records of criminal courts, from the thick and high walls of our penitentiaries, and even from the standing army, greater or smaller, that has always been deemed necessary. But, according to this wild and utterly anarchical notion, government must not exercise any power or force for the maintenance of order, for the safety of persons and property, for the suppression of insurrection, although all this is provided for in and by the laws. And the only argument against it is, that the criminals breaking the laws do not consent to the enforcement of them. And even this argument is based on the false consent to the Constitution and laws of the United States, exactly as all the rest of the people have.

These erroneous and dangerous ideas about Government, should they get the ascendancy in this country, would threaten the overthrow of all Government. But happily the intelligence of our people yet preserves them from this fatal notion. We foresee that this question of compulsion and consent is to be still further agitated before the country settles into quiet and amity. The power of civil government is not to be ignored, any more than overstrained. Force controled by justice is placed in the hands of government, by the Constitution. Obedience to just laws is demanded, not implored, and upon refusal, coercion not persuasion is the support of authority.

LEADERSHIP.

It is inevitable—at least it is universal—that in large deliberative assemblies, some individuals appear more conspicuous and influential than others. It is, in fact, always the case in the Congress of the United States. But it does not hence follow that these individuals are the leaders of the body, in the sense usually attached to the expression. They may be in the front, they may be, as it were, the spokesmen, but this does not, by any means, prove that their judgment controls that of others. The most that it shows is, that they express the sentiments of others. They may be admitted to prominence, they may be even placed in prominence, for this very purpose—not as the main spring that moves all, but as the index that shows how all move.

It would be humiliating to the United States Congress—Senate and House—to suppose it dependent, for its judgment on national interests and measures, on the judgment of one, two or ten individual members. The allegation, false in itself, is often made for the very purpose of casting indignity on the National Legislature. The falsity of it was shown during the last session, by the action of Congress in direct divergency from the course of those invidiously called the leaders of Congress. It would also be a humiliating concession to those who depreciate the popular suffrage. A free election, and that occurring every two years, ought to secure men who require no leading when they reach the capital, or other leading than their own knowledge and judgment supply. And it does so. A more competent body of men is nowhere convened for legislative purposes, nor one that acts more under the control of their own individual will and judgment.

Those, therefore, who imagine that Mr. STEVENS or Mr SUMNER, or any other member whom it suits them to name, is the leader of Congress, labor under a great mistake. If they base any political calculations on their fancy, and expect to further their interests by the invidious prominence and personal adulatory with which they press it, they are doomed to disappointment, by finding that Congress is but freely exercising and following its own judgment, and not that of any leader. They may pick at the index till they are tired, without disturbing the mainspring of intelligent loyalty and resolution that moves the whole body.

WAITING FOR CONGRESS.

There appears to be a lull in political circles just now. The elections of general interest are over, that provided a Congress to succeed the present. One party is satisfied and the other quiet under that decision. The second session of the present Congress has begun, the message has been read, and the two houses are in operation, and the country has little, in the political line, to give it material for talk and excitement, except what comes from that central point. This is all as proper as it is unavoidable. Due deference to the constituted authorities suggests that there should be a patient and respectful waiting for the movements of the representatives of the people.

There was complaint of the tardiness and delays of action on important questions in the former session of this Congress. The same cannot be alleged of this session. Bills and propositions have flowed in upon the raising of the gates. Or, to change the figure, a nest full of eggs has been laid, some of which will, no doubt, be hatched after a due course of incubation. We do not prescribe to Congress a policy, or attempt to define its duty. But we should like to see a somewhat larger intermixture of measures bearing directly on the material interests of the country; or rather, a smaller proportion of such as are merely of a political character.

The people have rebuked the unwise and offensive assumptions of the President, in such a way and with such an emphasis, as to leave little for Congress to do in that business. They have not only done this, but they have demonstrated the impossibility of executive assumptions, taking such form or carrying such efficiency as to materially change the character of our Government. This exonerates Congress from the necessity of making these its prominent objects. A little intelligent attention to them, amid more weighty and pressing demands on legislative labors, would answer all purposes.

THE AMENDMENT IN THE SOUTH.

The Legislatures of the Southern States will undoubtedly reject the proposed amendment. Some of them have done it already. What effect this will have, or whether it will have any, on the final destination of the amendment, we are not able to decide at this stage of the business. Of the reasons causing the rejection by the Legislatures, we have not direct information, but presume them to be the same that have been currently insisted on in Southern journals, not one of which has a particle of force, except upon the hypothesis that Southern sectionalism should take precedence of fidelity to the United States, that unequal representation should be perpetuated, and that treason and rebellion were not crimes. All these positions are totally wrong in themselves, and directly contrary to the clear and irreversible decisions of the war.

The first section of the amendment prohibits such sectional legislation as would deprive a citizen of the United States of his privileges as such. The second is designed to terminate the injustice of unequal representation, or in other words, to prevent the continuance, and that in an aggravated form, of the old wrong of a Congressional representation of a large non-voting negro population. The third disfranchises, under certain provisos, several classes of persons who have been active in the rebellion, and participants in the late rebellion. These are severally opposed by the three items in the hypothesis above referred to.

The third is undoubtedly the one that is most obnoxious to the present race of politicians and prominent men in the Southern States. The second, however, is also specially offensive, as striking at the root of the injustice in reference to representation, from which the Southern States, under the slavery regime, derived its excess of political power in the Government. As to the disfranchisement section, it requires but the exercise of the smallest appreciable amount of justice to give a verdict in its favor. It embraces but those persons, who in a cetamon riot or seditious movement would be called the ring-leaders, those who as officers in the civil or military service of the United States, had taken the oath of allegiance, and had, in violation thereof and in opposition to all claims of duty, engaged in rebellion against the same. Such persons, having proved themselves unworthy of trust even under the solemn sanctions of an oath, are precluded by the amendment from holding any office. The justice of this exclusion cannot be a matter of doubt, except to a prejudiced mind. Their exclusion from office, as a prudential measure, is indisputably wise and proper.

The number of individuals upon whom this section would bear is inconsiderably small, even though it should extend to all postmasters, clerks in custom houses, and justices of the peace. Thirty thousand persons would embrace the entire company, from JEFF. DAVIS down to the humblest lieutenant or lighthouse keeper. To save this perjured, as well as traitorous set, from official disfranchisement so well deserved, the voice of the Southern Legislatures is given against the amendment.

THE CONSOLIDATION QUESTION.

In another column will be found the official proceedings of the committee which was appointed by the Board of Trade to consider the question of consolidating the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, and the neighboring boroughs. There was a full attendance, and the meeting was entirely harmonious, as an interchange of views showed. The new charter will provide for city limits about eight miles north and south, and four east and west, thus giving an area of eighty square miles. The consolidated boundary lines of Philadelphia are eight by fourteen miles, and include a superficial area of one hundred and twenty-two square miles. The boundaries adopted by the committee last year were examined and discussed, but no expression of opinion was given, as the subject is to be especially considered and reported upon by a sub-committee. Last year parties inimical to the measure, raised a question as to the constitutionality of any legislative enactment containing a clause of submission, as proposed by one of the resolutions adopted in committee. But it was shown during debate, that the Courts have frequently recognized the legality of such provisions. The rural boroughs and townships to be included in the proposed extension, will naturally feel solicitous as to the extent to which they would be affected by the consolidated debt and ratio of taxation. One of the resolutions reflects the view of the Committee on the question of indebtedness. Concerning future taxation the proposed charter would, doubtless, contain a provision similar to the consolidated charter of Philadelphia, which discriminates in favor of the suburbs. Thus the Philadelphia assessment for 1867, which is to be $4 on the $100—is so subdivided that suburban districts can easily be exempted from charges for what they do not use. We give the Philadelphia specification: For poor, 1 cents; public schools, 55 cents; lighting city, 25 cents; payment of interest on funded debt and for sinking fund, $1 50; highways, 20 cents; water, 21 cents; police, 37 cents; city property, 6 cents; fire, 7 cents; prisons, 7 cents; City Commissioners, 11 cents; street cleaning 7 cents; remaining expenses, 27 cents.

The sentiment in favor of consolidation is a growing one. The more the question is discussed, the more apparent are the solid benefits to be derived from the proposed change. Our citizens will watch with a good deal of interest the future movements and reports of the Committee, and the final action of the Board of Trade.

THE PRISONERS IN CANADA.

The respite of the prisoners under sentence of death in Canada is gratifying to every humane feeling. Under the circumstances, however, no one acquainted with the ordinary operations of human nature and of human governments could rationally have expected it. We do not refer to the circumstances of their offense, for these would rather plead for a mitigation of the sentence, as the persons convicted were but subordinates in the unlawful transaction, and were, no doubt, deluded into participation in them by the representations of others. The circumstances that seemed likely to preclude all hope of pardon or respite were, the menacing words and actions of their associates, which, as human nature and human governments generally act, would have been more likely to ensure than to avert the punishment of the unfortunate men. We are glad, however, that the kindly negotiations of our government, for that was, no doubt, the successful agency, have secured at least a delay of their punishment. It is to be hoped that it will be followed by a cessation of those unneighborly threats and demonstrations which are only annoying and irritating to people on the other side of the line, and promise no advantage in profit or fame to those on this side. Let law and government regulate the intercourse of the nations.

SOME of the prominent rebels, who have been "abroad" for some time, would be glad to return to the country that they have tried so hard to ruin. Under the Government and flag that they have so bitterly hated and cursed, they would delight to live. Some of them hover round the United States, flitting from Halifax to Cuba, and from Canada to England, forth and back, afraid to alight on the soil that they have dishonored and drenched with blood. To wander homeless and without a country is a doom that they impreated on themselves in the madness of their disappointed ambition. In punishment, deserved and self-inflicted, to that extent, they have no sympathy in the loyal heart. The country is well rid of them.

IMMIGRATION INTO THE SOUTH.

It is only with the most friendly feelings that we, in common with the Republican press of the North, notice and speak of the affairs of the people in the late insurrectionary portions of our country—their condition and demeanor, their material interests and prospects. We have repeatedly expressed the belief that the first and most important duty of the *people* there was to improve their lands, to restore to order their deranged business, to employ the laborers now on the ground, to invite and welcome the ingress of capital and of business men, and to encourage the immigration of settlers. Knowing that it is by such means and agencies that the North and West have become what they are, we have honestly and earnestly recommended the same to our fellow-citizens in the South for the advancement of their part of the country.

But, although some of their more respectable journals have in a measure accorded with these views, and commended this course to the people, it is evident that angry and alarmed *politicians*, embracing a portion of the press, either do not appreciate the situation, or do not wish for the restoration of material prosperity, unless it comes in such a way as to secure to themselves all their former power of domination over the masses of the people. This is apparent in the sentiments that they promulgate in relation to the laborers now in the Southern States—the Freedmen—and in their language and action toward the North, whence alone the needed capital, enterprise and business, to say nothing of permanent settlers, can come. They utter, from an apparently inexhaustible reservoir, sentiments of hatred and contempt for all Northern people, under the designation of Yankees, threaten them if they come among them, annoy and disgust them, when they come, and so keep them away and drive them away, to their own serious detriment. Even their invitations to foreign imigration are so mixed with the same self-conceit and absurdity, that they operate as repellants more than attractions, and the success of them, in keeping away foreigners, is demonstrated by the very congratulations and glorifications that are made over a single poor company of thirty families from Northern Europe who have settled in the celebrated "wilderness" of Virginia. They also, in the same blind and false spirit, celebrate the scantiness of imigration by charging it on the ill offices and influences against them in the North.

We close this article, by giving a sample of the suicidal policy pursued by a portion of the Southern political press. It is from the Richmond *Times*. After stating that several large ship loads of emigrants, of the most efficient and respectable kind, from England and Wales, had gone to Texas, and assigning the reason—probably the true one, certainly a good one—for their choosing Texas, to be, the belief among them that there the troubles and disturbances were less, and less likely to recur, than in others of the Southern States, it adds, strictly in the style and temper we have before referred to, the following reflections:

"If we and only a fair showing, it would soon be seen that while the North and West got all the undesirable foreign element, that we would get the very best that Europe could produce of all races. The foreign element which has settled in the South, during the last few years, has always been eminently respectable. * * *

Weekly Commercial.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, December 10, 1866.

SENATE.

Mr. MORGAN presented a resolution of the Chamber of Commerce, New York, in favor of establishing a line of ocean telegraph under American control.

Mr. MORGAN presented a petition from the New York comptroller, in favor of the Government assuming the war debt of the several States, or giving us to be applied to that purpose certain sources of Internal Revenue. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. SUMNER presented the petition of Wm. Jewett, praying that General Hamilton be declared President of the United States. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. WADE, from the Committee on Territories, reported favorably on the bill for the admission of Nebraska as a State.

Mr. EDMUNDS, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill regulating appointments to office, with amendments.

Mr. WADE introduced a bill to admit Colorado into the Union. Referred to the Committee on Territories.

The bill regulating the elective franchise in the District of Columbia was taken up.

The bill to regulate the elective franchise in the District of Columbia provides that all males, excepting paupers and under guardianship, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who have not been guilty of infamous crimes or offenses, and who shall have resided in the District six months prior to any election, shall be entitled to a vote. The Judges of elections who reject the vote of any person entitled to vote under this act shall be liable to a fine not exceeding $500, or imprisonment not exceeding one year. Provision is also made for the punishment of disturbers of elections, and for registry of voters.

Mr. WILLEY offered an amendment giving right to vote only to those who have contributed to vote at elections held in the district in 1865, soldiers or sailors who have been honorably discharged from the service, and male citizens of the United States, excepting paupers, persons of unsound mind, persons convicted of infamous offenses, who have been residents of the district for one year preceding any election, shall have paid taxes assessed against them, and can read and write their names.

After a lengthy debate, an amendment was offered by Mr. ANTHONY to exclude from the privilege of voting all persons who have taken part in the rebellion. This was rejected by it to 16.

Mr. COWAN offered an amendment looking to giving females the franchise.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. WARD introduced a bill to guarantee to each State that may have been in rebellion, republican forms of government, and make it conform to the Reconstruction Committee.

Mr. ROGERS introduced a bill to repeal the neutrality laws. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. BINGHAM introduced a bill declaring void certain proclamations of the President, issued during the late rebellion. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. FARQUHAR introduced a bill to disfranchise all persons, native of the United States, who bore arms in the Confederate Government, or who accepted offices under the Confederacy. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. PEIRCE introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Invalid Pensions to inquire whether any person in the rebel states, who had been drawn upon the enrollment rolls for participation in the rebellion, had been rendered, and if so by what authority. Agreed to.

Mr. HART introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, calling upon the President to furnish the House with the names of all persons engaged in the late rebellion, who have been pardoned since April, 1865, the rank and position held by them, and whether they had held office under the United States Government prior to April 14th, 1861 and the names of those who ignored the negotiations for pardon.

Mr. SPALDING offered a resolution, which was agreed to, instructing the Committee on Reconstruction to inquire into the expediency of reporting a joint resolution in relation to the admission of Senators and Representatives from the United States from the rebellious States upon the passage of the Constitutional Amendment and establishment of republican forms of government in those States.

Mr. MCKEE introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, instructing the Committee of Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Internal Revenue Law as to relieve distillers of spirits who manufacture less than twenty barrels per year, from the operation of that part of the law which requires them to have a bonded warehouse and employ an inspector.

Mr. ROSS offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Banking and Currency to inquire into the expediency of withdrawing the national bank currency, and of winding up the affairs of national banks, and supplying the country with greenbacks or a similar currency. Laid on the table, 80 to 37.

The SPEAKER then filled the vacancies on committees. The Committee on Freedmen's Affairs remains the same as the Special Committee last year.

Messrs. Eliot, Shellabarger, and Thomas, were appointed a committee on the New Orleans riot.

Messrs. Pike, Farnsworth and Cooper to investigate the murder of Union men in South Carolina.

The House took up the special order, which was to report a time for the meeting of Congress. The bill was modified so as to provide an additional session of the Fortieth Congress, to commence on the 4th of March next. The bill was then passed by 124 to 2.

Mr. LANE introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, calling for information relative to the payment of money to the Leavenworth and Pike's Peak Railroad, as assignees of the Hannibal and St. Joseph road.

The House concurred in the President's Message. Mr. BLAINE spoke.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, December 11, 1866.

SENATE.

The Suffrage bill was called up this morning. Mr. ANTHONY, in a semi-comic speech, advocated the enfranchisement of negroes.

Mr. WILSON presented a petition of army officers asking an increase of pay.

Mr. JOHNSON called up the resolution, which was adopted, requesting the Committee on Judiciary to inquire whether any further legislation is necessary in regard to the succession to the Presidency in case of disability by death or otherwise of those acts designated by law.

The bill to regulate suffrage in the District of Columbia was then taken up; the question being on the amendment of Mr. COWAN to strike out the word "male."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. KELLY presented a memorial and resolutions of the Central Executive Committee of the Republican party of Louisiana, which was referred to the Committee on Reconstruction. The memorial prays for the reinstatement of the President, the abolition of the present State Government, and the erection of a territorial government in Louisiana.

The credentials of Alexander Hamilton Jones, Representative elect from the Seventeenth Congressional District of North Carolina, were presented and referred to the Committee on Reconstruction.

Mr. INGERSOLL introduced a bill to regulate the sale of coin and bullion by the Secretary of the Treasury, and moved that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. WASHBURNE objected to the reception or reference of the bill at the time, and the Speaker declared that objection being made, the reference could not be ordered.

Mr. WILSON, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill and recommended its passage to regulate the duties of Clerk of the House of Representatives in preparing for organization of the House and for other purposes. The bill provides in the first section that before the meeting of the next Congress and of each succeeding Congress, the Clerk of the next preceding House of Representatives shall make a roll of the Representatives elected, and placed thereon the names of all persons claiming seats as Representatives from the States represented in the next preceding Congress, and whose credentials shall show they have been duly elected. The second section provides that in case of vacancy in the office of Clerk of the House, or in case that officer should be for any reason unable to perform his duty, those duties shall devolve upon the Sergeant-at-Arms, and in case the latter fails to perform them, they shall devolve upon the Door-keeper of the next preceding House of Representatives. The third section provides that any of the officers mentioned in this bill violating any of the provisions shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor in office, and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment and fine at the discretion of the Court, not more than five years, in the discretion of the Court.

Mr. WILSON demanded the previous question, which was seconded. The bill was then passed, yeas, 125; nays 31.

Mr. WILSON, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported and recommended the passage of a bill to prevent the reception and counting of illegal and electoral votes in the election of President and Vice President of the United States, as follows:

WHEREAS, The rebellion which was waged by a portion of the people of the United States against the properly constituted authorities of the Government thereof, in the most wicked and revolting form, but whose organized and armed forces have now been overcome, did in its revolutionary progress deprive the people of the several portions of the United States heretofore represented in Congress, as the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Texas, of all civil Government, and so disturb their practical relations with the Union as to deprive them of the right of being represented in Congress, as Representatives, and as they can be restored to their political relations to the Union only by the consent of the law making power of the United States, and

WHEREAS, It would be improper for the communities thus deprived of civil Government, and whose political relations to the Government of the United States are so disturbed to participate in the election of President and Vice President of the United States. Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That until the law making power of the United States shall have declared the several portions of the United States heretofore represented in Congress as the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas, restored to their political relations to the Union, they shall not be deemed entitled to representation in the Electoral College for choice of President of the United States, and no electoral vote shall be received or counted from them, and no such vote hereafter be so declared restored to its political relations in the Union and entitled to representation in Congress.

Mr. WILSON explained the provisions of the bill. The Committee had followed the precedent established by the Fortieth Congress in its joint resolution declaring the States named as being in rebellion against the United States were in such condition on the 8th of November, 1864, that no valid election for President and Vice President was held in them, and therefore that they were not entitled to representation in the Electoral College; but the operation of the resolution was confined to the election of 1864, and the purpose of the present bill was to make a similar law to apply to all future elections, until those States shall have been restored to their political relations in the Union.

Mr. FINCK—But at the time that resolution was adopted, were we not in the midst of war, and are we not now in the midst of peace?

Mr. WILSON—We were at that time in the midst of war, and we think the effects of that war on those communities existed even to-day. We hold that rebellion deprived those communities of all civil government; and they cannot be permitted to participate in elections for President and Vice President until they shall have been provided with civil government by Congress, and shall be restored to their political relations in the Union.

Mr. HALE, of New York, said that without expressing an opinion on the merits of the bill, he did hope that action on it would not be forced without giving members an opportunity to examine and consider it. The measure was certainly a grave one, as grave as any that had yet occupied the attention of this Congress, and he was not by any means satisfied that the subject was so clear upon precedent as it would seem from the argument of the gentleman from Iowa. It did not necessarily follow that what was done by Congress when rebellion was actively raging, would be a proper precedent for the action of Congress now.

Mr. WILSON said he had no desire to press action upon the bill, and upon his motion it was postponed and made the special order of Thursday next, at the conclusion of the morning hour.

Mr. LAWRENCE reported a bill to repeal certain parts of the act, approved April 30, 1850, for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States. The act of 1790, as modified, provided that no person should be prosecuted, tried or punished for treason or other capital offences against the United States, unless an indictment for the offence should be found by a grand jury within three years after it was alleged to have been committed, and the purpose of the bill now reported was to repeal that provision, which, if were permitted to continue in force, would soon be equivalent to a general pardon and amnesty for all treasonable acts committed during the rebellion. The only questions that could arise upon the passage of this bill were, first, as to its expediency, and second, as to the right of Congress to pass such a law. The House had already determined it was not expedient to declare general pardons and amnesty by repealing the amnesty act on the first day of the present session, and had not doubted the power and right of Congress to repeal those portions of the act of 1790, which, if not repealed, would soon be equivalent to such a declaration.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, obtained the floor and said: Mr. Speaker: I approach with great distrust all bills of this grade, which are evidently brought forward for the purpose of ascertaining how much to convict and whom we cannot convict under the laws existing when the crimes were committed. I do not believe that it becomes this nation—I do not believe it is safe for us to undertake to pass laws by which we can or may be able to punish men, however guilty, that could not be punished under the laws existing when the crimes were committed. Could we now change our Constitution so as to change the place of trial of traitors, I think that course might be changed, and that they should be tried by jurors summoned from another hallowed the Constitution our laws provide very carefully that, except in the case of treason, the party charged of such crime must be tried where the overt act was committed, in a district previously ascertained by law, which provisions, to change that in any respect. It looks to me so much like an attempt to commit judicial murder, that I have always been afraid of the attempt. I am afraid that the traitors in the south, if tried under our existing Constitution and laws, will find one of them be convicted. I should never consent to try them for treason. I would try them as belligerents, under the laws of nations and laws of war.

Mr. WILKINSON, of Ohio—We have no reason to expect of the Administration any such trial.

Mr. STEVENS—I am stating what I would do if I were the Administration. [Laughter.] Under no circumstances would not discourage trials for treason, to mention this to show that I am convinced that more of those leaders can be convicted in the loyal States under our present Constitution and laws, and yet I would rather let every man of them go unpunished forever, than to make a law by which they could be punished. I think our Government would not stand in the future existence, in its character before the world, by conduct of that kind more than it would be by surrendering its military power.

After further debate, and without taking the question, the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, December 12, 1866.

SENATE.

Mr. MORGAN introduced a joint resolution presenting the thanks of Congress to Mr. Field, for the successful laying of the Atlantic Cable. The District of Columbia suffrage bill was taken up.

Mr. BROWN, of Missouri, maintained that suffrage should be universal, without restrictions as to races.

Mr. HOWARD spoke on Mr. COWAN'S amendment, to extend the franchise to females.

Mr. THAYER offered a joint resolution requesting the President to inform the Senate whether any persons had been appointed to offices since the last adjournment of Congress to fill vacancies existing prior to that adjournment, but not originating since, and in case in regard to the Surveyor of Philadelphia.

Mr. DAVIS argued that it was a fixed American principle that suffrage belonged only to the whites.

Mr. SPRAGUE advocated and Mr. BUCKALEW opposed negro suffrage.

Mr. BROWN, of Missouri, took the floor and said that he thought the question of time of no effect opinion than anything else. He stood for universal suffrage, and for no limit of color or sex. He recognized the right of States as a natural right. Society had no right to impose restrictions against it but did so in spring out of social necessities. He denied that it was any boon granted by society. He did not hold his liberty by any such tenure. He would be sorry to depend upon the majority for those rights. If that were necessary, it would ring the death knell of the Republic. He would refer to the abstract ground upon which this rested. What was proposed to offer an amendment as to making a qualification. He might support such a measure, but he could not support either this bill or the amendment.

Mr. POMEROY was for this measure earnestly, and for that reason he opposed the amendment, believing it was merely intended to defeat the bill.

The yeas and nays were taken on the amendment of Mr. COWAN, 9 yeas, 37 nays.

Mr. JOHNSON opposed the pending amendment, to come at the end of the first section of the bill reported by the Committee: *Provided*, That no person who has been a participant in the late rebellion shall be permitted to vote unless he shall be able to read the article declaring the vote to read and to write his own name.

Mr. SAULSBURY spoke against the bill.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. BLAINE introduced a resolution authorizing the Committee on War Debts of Loyal States to report a bill authorizing the taking of two and a half per cent. on national banks for the payment of such debts. Objection being made, it lies over.

The resolution of Mr. PRUE relative to the issue and circulation of national banks, were laid over.

A resolution that no State of the South refusing to ratify the Constitutional Amendment shall be entitled to representation, was laid over.

The credentials of B. H. Epperson, of Texas, were presented and referred to the Election Committee.

The bill repealing the clause of 1790, which provides for no trial for treason after the expiration of three years, was taken up, debated and recommitted to the Judiciary Committee.

The bill to authorize the President to confer brevet rank on officers appointed to the Regular Army for gallant services in the volunteer service was passed.

The bill of last session, regulating the peace establishment of the army was reported and tabled.

The bill regulating appointments was debated at a great length.

After a lengthy debate, an amendment was offered by Mr. ANTHONY to exclude from the privilege of voting all persons who have taken part in the rebellion. This was rejected by it to 16.

Mr. COWAN offered an amendment looking to giving females the franchise.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. WARD introduced a bill to guarantee to each State that may have been in rebellion, republican forms of government, and make it conform to the Reconstruction Committee.

Mr. ROGERS introduced a bill to repeal the neutrality laws. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. BINGHAM introduced a bill declaring void certain proclamations of the President, issued during the late rebellion. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. FARQUHAR introduced a bill to disfranchise all persons, native of the United States, who bore arms in the Confederate Government, or who accepted offices under the Confederacy. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. PEIRCE introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Invalid Pensions to inquire whether any person in the rebel states, who had been drawn upon the enrollment rolls for participation in the rebellion, had been rendered, and if so by what authority. Agreed to.

Mr. HART introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, calling upon the President to furnish the House with the names of all persons engaged in the late rebellion, who have been pardoned since April, 1865, the rank and position held by them, and whether they had held office under the United States Government prior to April 14th, 1861 and the names of those who ignored the negotiations for pardon.

Mr. SPALDING offered a resolution which was agreed to, instructing the Committee on Reconstruction to inquire into the expediency of reporting a joint resolution in relation to the admission of Senators and Representatives from the United States from the rebellious States upon the passage of the Constitutional Amendment and establishment of republican forms of government in those States.

Mr. MCKEE introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, instructing the Committee of Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Internal Revenue Law as to relieve distillers of spirits who manufacture less than twenty barrels per year, from the operation of that part of the law which requires them to have a bonded warehouse and employ an inspector.

Mr. ROSS offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Banking and Currency to inquire into the expediency of withdrawing the national bank currency, and of winding up the affairs of national banks, and supplying the country with greenbacks or a similar currency. Laid on the table, 80 to 37.

The SPEAKER then filled the vacancies on committees. The Committee on Freedmen's Affairs remains the same as the Special Committee last year.

Messrs. Eliot, Shellabarger, and Thomas, were appointed a committee on the New Orleans riot.

Messrs. Pike, Farnsworth and Cooper to investigate the murder of Union men in South Carolina.

The House took up the special order, which was to report a time for the meeting of Congress. The bill was modified so as to provide an additional session of the Fortieth Congress, to commence on the 4th of March next. The bill was then passed by 124 to 2.

Mr. LANE introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, calling for information relative to the payment of money to the Leavenworth and Pike's Peak Railroad, as assignees of the Hannibal and St. Joseph road.

The House concurred in the President's Message. Mr. BLAINE spoke.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, December 11, 1866.

SENATE.

The Suffrage bill was called up this morning. Mr. ANTHONY, in a semi-comic speech, advocated the enfranchisement of negroes.

Mr. WILSON presented a petition of army officers asking an increase of pay.

Mr. JOHNSON called up the resolution, which was adopted, requesting the Committee on Judiciary to inquire whether any further legislation is necessary in regard to the succession to the Presidency in case of disability by death or otherwise of those acts designated by law.

The bill to regulate suffrage in the District of Columbia was then taken up; the question being on the amendment of Mr. COWAN to strike out the word "male."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. KELLY presented a memorial and resolutions of the Central Executive Committee of the Republican party of Louisiana, which was referred to the Committee on Reconstruction. The memorial prays for the reinstatement of the President, the abolition of the present State Government, and the erection of a territorial government in Louisiana.

The credentials of Alexander Hamilton Jones, Representative elect from the Seventeenth Congressional District of North Carolina, were presented and referred to the Committee on Reconstruction.

Mr. INGERSOLL introduced a bill to regulate the sale of coin and bullion by the Secretary of the Treasury, and moved that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. WASHBURNE objected to the reception or reference of the bill at the time, and the Speaker declared that objection being made, the reference could not be ordered.

Mr. WILSON, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill and recommended its passage to regulate the duties of Clerk of the House of Representatives in preparing for organization of the House and for other purposes. The bill provides in the first section that before the meeting of the next Congress and of each succeeding Congress, the Clerk of the next preceding House of Representatives shall make a roll of the Representatives elected, and placed thereon the names of all persons claiming seats as Representatives from the States represented in the next preceding Congress, and whose credentials shall show they have been duly elected. The second section provides that in case of vacancy in the office of Clerk of the House, or in case that officer should be for any reason unable to perform his duty, those duties shall devolve upon the Sergeant-at-Arms, and in case the latter fails to perform them, they shall devolve upon the Door-keeper of the next preceding House of Representatives. The third section provides that any of the officers mentioned in this bill violating any of the provisions shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor in office, and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment and fine at the discretion of the Court, not more than five years, in the discretion of the Court.

Mr. WILSON demanded the previous question, which was seconded. The bill was then passed, yeas, 125; nays 31.

Mr. WILSON, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported and recommended the passage of a bill to prevent the reception and counting of illegal and electoral votes in the election of President and Vice President of the United States, as follows:

WHEREAS, The rebellion which was waged by a portion of the people of the United States against the properly constituted authorities of the Government thereof, in the most wicked and revolting form, but whose organized and armed forces have now been overcome, did in its revolutionary progress deprive the people of the several portions of the United States heretofore represented in Congress, as the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Texas, of all civil Government, and so disturb their practical relations with the Union as to deprive them of the right of being represented in Congress, as Representatives, and as they can be restored to their political relations to the Union only by the consent of the law making power of the United States, and

WHEREAS, It would be improper for the communities thus deprived of civil Government, and whose political relations to the Government of the United States are so disturbed to participate in the election of President and Vice President of the United States. Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That until the law making power of the United States shall have declared the several portions of the United States heretofore represented in Congress as the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas, restored to their political relations to the Union, they shall not be deemed entitled to representation in the Electoral College for choice of President of the United States, and no electoral vote shall be received or counted from them, and no such vote hereafter be so declared restored to its political relations in the Union and entitled to representation in Congress.

Mr. WILSON explained the provisions of the bill. The Committee had followed the precedent established by the Fortieth Congress in its joint resolution declaring the States named as being in rebellion against the United States were in such condition on the 8th of November, 1864, that no valid election for President and Vice President was held in them, and therefore that they were not entitled to representation in the Electoral College; but the operation of the resolution was confined to the election of 1864, and the purpose of the present bill was to make a similar law to apply to all future elections, until those States shall have been restored to their political relations in the Union.

Mr. FINCK—But at the time that resolution was adopted, were we not in the midst of war, and are we not now in the midst of peace?

Mr. WILSON—We were at that time in the midst of war, and we think the effects of that war on those communities existed even to-day. We hold that rebellion deprived those communities of all civil government, and they cannot be permitted to participate in elections for President and Vice President until they shall have been provided with civil government by Congress, and shall be restored to their political relations in the Union.

Mr. HALE, of New York, said that without expressing an opinion on the merits of the bill, he did hope that action on it would not be forced without giving members an opportunity to examine and consider it. The measure was certainly a grave one, as grave as any that had yet occupied the attention of this Congress, and he was not by any means satisfied that the subject was so clear upon precedent as it would seem from the argument of the gentleman from Iowa. It did not necessarily follow that what was done by Congress when rebellion was actively raging, would be a proper precedent for the action of Congress now.

Mr. WILSON said he had no desire to press action upon the bill, and upon his motion it was postponed and made the special order of Thursday next, at the conclusion of the morning hour.

Mr. LAWRENCE reported a bill to repeal certain parts of the act, approved April 30, 1850, for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States. The act of 1790, as modified, provided that no person should be prosecuted, tried or punished for treason or other capital offences against the United States, unless an indictment for the offence should be found by a grand jury within three years after it was alleged to have been committed, and the purpose of the bill now reported was to repeal that provision, which, if were permitted to continue in force, would soon be equivalent to a general pardon and amnesty for all treasonable acts committed during the rebellion. The only questions that could arise upon the passage of this bill were, first, as to its expediency, and second, as to the right of Congress to pass such a law. The House had already determined it was not expedient to declare general pardons and amnesty by repealing the amnesty act on the first day of the present session, and had not doubted the power and right of Congress to repeal those portions of the act of 1790, which, if not repealed, would soon be equivalent to such a declaration.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, obtained the floor and said: Mr. Speaker: I approach with great distrust all bills of this grade, which are evidently brought forward for the purpose of ascertaining how much to convict and whom we cannot convict under the laws existing when the crimes were committed. I do not believe that it becomes this nation—I do not believe it is safe for us to undertake to pass laws by which we can or may be able to punish men, however guilty, that could not be punished under the laws existing when the crimes were committed. Could we now change our Constitution so as to change the place of trial of traitors, I think that course might be changed, and that they should be tried by jurors summoned from another hallowed the Constitution our laws provide very carefully that, except in the case of treason, the party charged of such crime must be tried where the overt act was committed, in a district previously ascertained by law, which provisions, to change that in any respect. It looks to me so much like an attempt to commit judicial murder, that I have always been afraid of the attempt. I am afraid that the traitors in the south, if tried under our existing Constitution and laws, will find one of them be convicted. I should never consent to try them for treason. I would try them as belligerents, under the laws of nations and laws of war.

Mr. WILKINSON, of Ohio—We have no reason to expect of the Administration any such trial.

Mr. STEVENS—I am stating what I would do if I were the Administration. [Laughter.] Under no circumstances would not discourage trials for treason, to mention this to show that I am convinced that more of those leaders can be convicted in the loyal States under our present Constitution and laws, and yet I would rather let every man of them go unpunished forever, than to make a law by which they could be punished. I think our Government would not stand in the future existence, in its character before the world, by conduct of that kind more than it would be by surrendering its military power.

After further debate, and without taking the question, the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, December 12, 1866.

SENATE.

Mr. MORGAN introduced a joint resolution presenting the thanks of Congress to Mr. Field, for the successful laying of the Atlantic Cable. The District of Columbia suffrage bill was taken up.

Mr. BROWN, of Missouri, maintained that suffrage should be universal, without restrictions as to races.

Mr. HOWARD spoke on Mr. COWAN'S amendment, to extend the franchise to females.

Mr. THAYER offered a joint resolution requesting the President to inform the Senate whether any persons had been appointed to offices since the last adjournment of Congress to fill vacancies existing prior to that adjournment, but originating since, and in case in regard to the Surveyor of Philadelphia.

Mr. DAVIS argued that it was a fixed American principle that suffrage belonged only to the whites.

Mr. SPRAGUE advocated and Mr. BUCKALEW opposed negro suffrage.

Mr. BROWN, of Missouri, took the floor and said that he thought the question of time of no effect opinion than anything else. He stood for universal suffrage, and for no limit of color or sex. He recognized the right of States as a natural right. Society had no right to impose restrictions against it but did so in spring out of social necessities. He denied that it was any boon granted by society. He did not hold his liberty by any such tenure. He would be sorry to depend upon the majority for those rights. If that were necessary, it would ring the death knell of the Republic. He would refer to the abstract ground upon which this rested. What was proposed to offer an amendment as to making a qualification. He might support such a measure, but he could not support either this bill or the amendment.

Mr. POMEROY was for this measure earnestly, and for that reason he opposed the amendment, believing it was merely intended to defeat the bill.

The yeas and nays were taken on the amendment of Mr. COWAN, 9 yeas, 37 nays.

Mr. JOHNSON opposed the pending amendment, to come at the end of the first section of the bill reported by the Committee: *Provided*, That no person who has been a participant in the late rebellion shall be permitted to vote unless he shall be able to read the article declaring the vote to read and to write his own name.

Mr. SAULSBURY spoke against the bill.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. BLAINE introduced a resolution authorizing the Committee on War Debts of Loyal States to report a bill authorizing the taking of two and a half per cent. on national banks for the payment of such debts. Objection being made, it lies over.

The resolution of Mr. PRUE relative to the issue and circulation of national banks, were laid over.

A resolution that no State of the South refusing to ratify the Constitutional Amendment shall be entitled to representation, was laid over.

The credentials of B. H. Epperson, of Texas, were presented and referred to the Election Committee.

The bill repealing the clause of 1790, which provides for no trial for treason after the expiration of three years, was taken up, debated and recommitted to the Judiciary Committee.

The bill to authorize the President to confer brevet rank on officers appointed to the Regular Army for gallant services in the volunteer service was passed.

The bill of last session, regulating the peace establishment of the army was reported and tabled.

The bill regulating appointments was debated at a great length.

After a lengthy debate, an amendment was offered by Mr. ANTHONY to exclude from the privilege of voting all persons who have taken part in the rebellion. This was rejected by it to 16.

Mr. COWAN offered an amendment looking to giving females the franchise.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. WARD introduced a bill to guarantee to each State that may have been in rebellion, republican forms of government, and make it conform to the Reconstruction Committee.

Mr. ROGERS introduced a bill to repeal the neutrality laws. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. BINGHAM introduced a bill declaring void certain proclamations of the President, issued during the late rebellion. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. FARQUHAR introduced a bill to disfranchise all persons, native of the United States, who bore arms in the Confederate Government, or who accepted offices under the Confederacy. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. PEIRCE introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Invalid Pensions to inquire whether any person in the rebel states, who had been drawn upon the enrollment rolls for participation in the rebellion, had been rendered, and if so by what authority. Agreed to.

Mr. HART introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, calling upon the President to furnish the House with the names of all persons engaged in the late rebellion, who have been pardoned since April, 1865, the rank and position held by them, and whether they had held office under the United States Government prior to April 14th, 1861 and the names of those who ignored the negotiations for pardon.

Mr. SPALDING offered a resolution which was agreed to, instructing the Committee on Reconstruction to inquire into the expediency of reporting a joint resolution in relation to the admission of Senators and Representatives from the United States from the rebellious States upon the passage of the Constitutional Amendment and establishment of republican forms of government in those States.

Mr. MCKEE introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, instructing the Committee of Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Internal Revenue Law as to relieve distillers of spirits who manufacture less than twenty barrels per year, from the operation of that part of the law which requires them to have a bonded warehouse and employ an inspector.

Mr. ROSS offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Banking and Currency to inquire into the expediency of withdrawing the national bank currency, and of winding up the affairs of national banks, and supplying the country with greenbacks or a similar currency. Laid on the table, 80 to 37.

The SPEAKER then filled the vacancies on committees. The Committee on Freedmen's Affairs remains the same as the Special Committee last year.

Messrs. Eliot, Shellabarger, and Thomas, were appointed a committee on the New Orleans riot.

Messrs. Pike, Farnsworth and Cooper to investigate the murder of Union men in South Carolina.

The House took up the special order, which was to report a time for the meeting of Congress. The bill was modified so as to provide an additional session of the Fortieth Congress, to commence on the 4th of March next. The bill was then passed by 124 to 2.

Mr. LANE introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, calling for information relative to the payment of money to the Leavenworth and Pike's Peak Railroad, as assignees of the Hannibal and St. Joseph road.

The House concurred in the President's Message. Mr. BLAINE spoke.

Adjourned.

THE CAPITAL.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, December 12, 1866.

The Late Appointments.

Nothing interesting or important transpired in the Senate, to-day. Mr. Trumbull introduced a resolution inquiring of the President if he had during the recess filled vacancies that existed while the Senate was last in session, and if so whether such appointees had been paid. Special inquiry is made in regard to the recently appointed Surveyor of the Port of Philadelphia.

The Freedmen's Bureau.

Mr. Wilson gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to amend the Freedmen's Bureau bill. It looks to the continuance of the Bureau and the enlargement of its powers.

The Suffrage Bill.

The remainder of the session was taken up in discussing the suffrage bill for the district, and a number of speeches were made, most of them being read from manuscripts. Gratz Brown read a long one. Garret Davis followed with a couple of quires, and Sprague came in after with about a quire and a half. A few short speeches were delivered in the latter were made, after which the amendment to strike out the word "male" was voted down by 9 to 37. Messrs. Anthony, Brown, Buckalew, Cowan, Foster, Nesmith, Patterson, Riddle and Wade voted in the affirmative.

Mr. Dixon then offered an amendment that no person who had not heretofore voted should be allowed to vote unless he could read and write his name. This was pending when the Senate adjourned.

Mr. Doolittle, in the course of a speech, said he might possibly vote for a qualified suffrage bill, but could not vote for universal suffrage here or elsewhere.

Mr. Dixon's amendment will be voted down, and what the Radicals call a clean bill will be passed. So much is evident from what has already transpired.

The Lake Surveys.

In the House to-day Mr. Paine, of Wisconsin, introduced a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to report annually to Congress the progress made in the survey of the Northern and Northwestern lakes.

Credentials Presented.

The credentials of Benjamin Efferson, representative elect from Texas, were presented in the House to-day, and referred to the Committee on Reconstruction.

Limitation Act.

The bill to repeal so much as is known as the act of limitation in cases of treason was recommitted in the House to-day to the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Stevens and others looked upon it as *ex post facto* legislation.

High Salaries.

Mr. Rodgers, of New Jersey, in concluding his speech on this bill, used the following language: "God Almighty in eternity will write in letters of gold, upon the front of the altar of Christianity, the name of Andrew Johnson as the one pure patriot of these troublous times." This was received with shouts of laughter on the radical side of the House.

The Deficiency Bill.

The Deficiency appropriation bill, reported in the House, contains an appropriation of ten thousand dollars for the repair of the Marine Hospital at Louisville, Kentucky. Congress is called upon to supply a deficiency of eighty thousand dollars, that has been expended in one hundred and fifty thousand in the public printing, and to appropriate forty thousand dollars as the government subsidy for the overland telegraph line.

Public Land Sales.

There was an unusual activity in land operations during the month of November last. There were 62,750 acres of the public lands disposed of at Massaliaa, Wisconsin, and Boonville, Missouri, offices, the greater portion of the land having been taken for actual settlement and cultivation, and will add about three hundred and fifty farms to the States.

Compounding Frauds.

The Committee of the House appointed yesterday to investigate charges against revenue officers in blackmailing, and compounding with defrauders of the Government, consists of Messrs. Darling, Beaman, Eggleston, Myers and Trimble. The latter is a member from New York and the West are expected. The Committee will go to New York on Thursday night, and commence investigations on Friday. It will not go to the West until after the holidays. It is the intention to offer an amendment to the right to express his opinions, he had always expressed them freely, and he would continue to do so in the future. While he remains in the House, Laughter unless the majority should see fit to expel him by the use of rifles or other members, by expulsion. He felt it to be his duty to protest against the usurpations now perpetrated by the Administration upon their liberties, and protested against its policy towards the South; but he denied, therefore, be accused of sympathy with treason.

Mr. BLAIR, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported and recommended the passage of a bill relating to brevets in the United States, regulating the manner of how to place volunteer officers appointed to positions in the army upon the same footing with the regular officers. The bill was passed.

Mr. S. HENCK, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back the bill to increase, reorganize and fix the Military peace establishment of the United States. Laid on the table. Also a resolution directing the payment of extra pay to certain officers. Laid on the table.

Mr. SCHENCK also reported adversely upon the memorial of Lieutenant Fourteen days at a time with intervals between the periods of such confinement not less than such period, nor more than ninety days in any one year. United States for military offences shall not be confined in a state prison or penitentiary, and when soldiers for other than military offences are sentenced to confinement in a penitentiary, they will be dishonorably discharged the service. In like manner proceedings the processing suits of Court, a ball and chain shall not be used as punishment. Ordnance sergeants and hospital stewards, although liable to discharges, shall not be reduced nor are they to be tried by regimental or garrison court martials, without the permission of the Department Commandant."

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, A. A. G.

DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. Stevens's bill, reported yesterday from the Committee on Appropriations, to supply the deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867, was made the special order for to-morrow, embraces the following items: For public printing, $80,000; binding, $120,000; bureau of statistics, $6,000; fuel, light and labor in Treasury building, $25,000; to refund Sixth Auditor, postal, $10,000; repairs of Capitol, $10,000; fencing grounds south of President's house, $14,000; repairs and preservation of public buildings, $25,000; for the expenses of Tax Commissioner, $10,000; same for Treasury building, $20,000; heating apparatus in public buildings, $10,000; facilities communication by telegraph, $40,000; supervising local steamboat inspectors, $7,000; watchmen for public buildings, $2,700; deficiency for work done in Washington City, $159,287; stable at Executive Mansion, $1,000; Metropolitan police, $7,736.96; Commutation of quarters and fuel for officers of Engineer Corps, $240,193; Damage done to Washington aqueduct, $12,000; contingencies of State Department, $250,000.

THE NEW ORLEANS COMMISSION.

The special commission to inquire into the New Orleans riots held a meeting to-day, and took the testimony of Messrs. Fish and Durant. The latter was President of the State Convention of Louisiana of 1864. His evidence was chiefly a repetition of that given by him to the military commission at New Orleans to inquire into the facts of the riot. The Congressional special committee is expected to start on their mission to New Orleans on Monday next.

FEMALE CLERKS.

The statement that the Secretary of the Treasury had under consideration the subject of dispensing with the services of female clerks, has produced a strong pressure against such action, or at any rate to the second installment at once with the services of this class of employees. It is thought he may be induced to reconsider the matter as far as faithful and competent ladies may be found among those at present employed, but applications for additional appointments have a very slight chance of success.

CONSUL FOR COSTA RICA.

The President has recognized Allan A. Burton as Consul of Costa Rica for the State of Kentucky, to reside at Louisville.

THE FENIANS.

BOSTON, December 12.—A Fenian privateer is said to have successfully eluded Federal vigilance, and to have reached the Irish coast several days ago, the last of last week, *en route* for the Irish coast. The vessel in question is alleged to be the schooner Estelle, of 700 tons burden, and is said to be armed with the most improved and destructive ordnance, suited in caliber to that of the v

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1866.

TERMS:

One copy per year.....$2 00
In clubs of Twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis, to the getter-up of the club.

FOR WHOM SHALL THE TARIFF LAW BE FRAMED—FOREIGN OR HOME INTERESTS?

The past experience of American tariffs has shown that much of the revenue, as well as protection, which they were designed to secure, has been lost through inaccurate classification. In the matter of iron, for instance, previous tariffs had "lumped" costly and cheap irons of different sizes and qualities and submitted them to the same duties, without discrimination as to value. What was needed was a tariff that would classify iron according to the cost of production. This could only be done by making a classification of sizes and shapes, so that high priced iron could not be imported under low priced classifications. The House of Representatives fully appreciated the necessity of a reform in this matter, and in July a bill was unanimously passed embodying a correction of the mischief, but was unfortunately lost in the Senate.

Of course the British iron manufacturers do not relish any changes which will diminish their present profits, or chances for evading the revenue laws. And for fear that Congress may not know exactly what they do want, a meeting of their representatives—the iron importers of New York city—was recently held, at which the Commissioner of Revenue was recommended to change what these disinterested parties term "the present ambiguous and vexatious classification of iron for the basis of duties," and the following classification urged:

On bar iron, rolled and hammered, 1x¼ to 6x2 flat.

On bar iron, rolled and hammered, thicker than 2 inch, flat.

On bar iron, rolled and hammered, ⅝ to 3 inch, round or square.

On bar iron, rolled and hammered, 3⅛ inch and upward, square.

On bar iron, rolled and hammered, 3-16 to 9-16 inch square.

On band, scroll and hoop iron, hammered, not thinner than 12, W gauge.

On band, scroll and hoop iron, hammered, thinner than 12, W gauge.

On ovals, half-ovals and half-rounds, hammered.

On sheet, plate and boiler iron, not thinner than 20, W. gauge.

On sheet, plate and boiler iron, thinner than 20, W. gauge.

The good gentlemen declare that the discrimination against many sizes of iron renders their importation prohibitory and they fear that in consequence the Government is being deprived of revenue! They cannot see why there should be any distinction in sizes of bar iron, say flats 1 to 6 inches wide and squares 3 to 3 inches—they all should be included under one price.

These importers are interested in every measure that can reduce protection, or increase the opportunities for evading revenue. Our Government must resolve on adequate protection to the American iron industry or abandon the hope of revenue from a source, which has been its largest contributor. Furthermore, the people at large, not only the manufacturers, but the thousands whose skilled labor they represent, must determine through their representations whether American iron production shall languish, in the interest of importers. The necessity of revenue will settle the principle of protection for some years to come, but in view of the depression caused by the heavy internal revenue, that protection must be *adequate*, in order that these taxes can be paid, and our home productions thrive.

In view of the present condition of trade, the Congress about to assemble should give the subject its early and earnest attention. Talk about free trade is the babble of dreamers and vague theorists. Protection to American manufactures is not merely a question of revenue. It means comfortable livelihood, education, and social independence and advancement to all the producing classes of our country. They are the source of all true wealth, and their claim to protection against the pauper labor of the old world must not be ignored. We hope to see the bill of the last House, or one equivalent to it, promptly revived, and passed into a law. American Iron Manufacturers do not want a classification of iron duties that will suit the interests of Importers of New York.

THE MEETING

After some months of separation, the Legislative and the Executive Departments of the Government have officially met each other. Events, including individual and public action, have occurred during the separation, that were calculated to make the meeting somewhat peculiar and embarrassing. Such was evidently the effect. According to the established formula of greeting, it devolved upon the President to open the interview. The message, respectful to Congress in its tone and terms, was heard courteously and coolly. The thoughts of both parties in the interview were evidently occupied, though with different emotions, by the sayings and doings of the past few months, more than by the words spoken in the passing hour. The silence of the one demonstrates this as clearly as the actions of the other.

The formalities of the meeting being over business begins. The key-note of the future has been already given, but it comes not so much from the first scene in the Halls of Congress, as from the clear, sonorous voice of the nation. Already is developed a purpose to so far limit Executive patronage, that it shall not be employed to corrupt the public mind and control the free elections of the people. The end proposed is good for the public interest, both in morals and politics. If secured by wise and proper means, it will be recognized as a benefaction to the country. The evil, of forty years standing, this year put on a new and advanced aspect of mischief, no longer confining its operations to the distribution of spoils to partizans, *after* election, but bidding for partizans before election by proffers and bestowments of office. Perhaps, in applying a remedy, Congress may extend the prerogative of *popular election* to some offices purely local, which have heretofore been filled by Executive appointments, provided the authority granted in the second article of the Constitution will admit of it.

With reference to this, as well as other matters foreshadowed in the first day's proceedings, and to all its action, Congress is expected by the people to adhere to the line of its functions with a steady eye to the public good. The unseemly quarrel between co-ordinate departments has been an occasion of both mortification and alarm to the people, who have administered the rebuke according to their judgment of the blame. Its continuance, as a formal contest, will not accord with the public judgment, but measures for averting its consequences and for preventing its recurrence are clearly subjects for legislative consideration. And while we regard the temper and manner of Congress, thus far indicated, as not differing from what might be properly expected under the circumstances, we entertain the confident hope that its wisdom will so direct its power as not to inspire a wish, in the public mind, that its power were less or that its wisdom were greater. Then a peaceful session, the progress of public business, the furtherance of material prosperity, and some visible approach to the entire reconstruction of the country may be achieved, to the honor of the Union, and of the thirty-ninth Congress.

BRITISH IMPORTATIONS.

The British trade returns, for the first nine months of 1866, show the export, to the United States, of textile fabrics, which on comparison with the same period of 1865, cannot fail to interest the general reader.

For the first nine months of 1865, we received from England 2,067,225 yards of cloth, which was worth, at the rate of export, 354,893 pounds, or 1,737,682 dollars. For the same period of 1866, we received 4,391,621 yards of cloth, more than double that received last year, and costing 792,232 pounds, or 3,834,405 dollars. Of Carpets and Druggets, in 1865, we received 1,178,631 yards, for which we paid 204,415 pounds, or 992,260 dollars. These are gold prices, not currency. In the first nine months of 1865, we received 79,462 shawls, costing us 21,685 pounds, or 104,090 dollars. During the same period of 1866, we imported from England 124,335 shawls, costing 39,501 pounds, or 191,185 dollars. In the same period of 1865, we imported 467 yards of worsted stuffs, costing us 2,421,201 pounds, or 11,719,612 dollars. During the first nine months of 1866, we received 64,135,307 yards, for which we paid 3,011,041 pounds, or 14,578,458 dollars. It must be understood that these are the prices we paid at the port of exportation, to which must be added the difference between gold and currency, cost of transportation and duties.

The above importations were from England alone. The imports at New York, for the first ten months of the year from every quarter were enormous, reaching the extraordinary total of $266,000,000, gold value, against $171,000,000 for the same period of 1865, and $109,000,000 in 1864.

The exports from New York to Foreign ports, for ten months from January 1st, were, in currency values, as follows:

Of Domestic Produce,	$155,186,890
Of Foreign Free Goods,	598,217
Of Foreign Dutiable Goods,	4,146,845
Of Specie and Bullion,	55,489,740
Total Exports,	$216,421,692

TESTING ILLUMINATING OIL.

Councils of Pittsburgh, at their last monthly meeting, instructed the City Solicitor to frame an act to be submitted to the Pennsylvania Legislature, making it a penal offense to sell any refined or illuminating oil, which should fail to stand a test of one hundred and ten degrees. In view of the large number of fires and fatal accidents that almost daily result from the use of petroleum oil in various states of preparation, the subject is one of grave importance. The disastrous petroleum fire in New York last week has raised a discussion there, as to the proper means of prevention. The explosive quality in petroleum is benzole, which exists to a greater or less degree in all gravities of the crude oil, except the lubricating oils. It is found that the percentage of benzole in some of the lighter oils produced in our State is twenty-five per cent. From oil properly refined the benzole is entirely separated, so much so, that such refined oil will extinguish a burning brand as quickly as water. But there are unscrupulous refiners who add the benzole to their refined oil to increase its bulk and their profits. The use of these imperfectly refined oils is the cause of casualities. The New York *Tribune* suggests a legal remedy:

"One simple law would regulate the question of danger from oil explosions. Let the law assert that police men or other officers shall test all oils offered for sale, by passing a lighted match to a vessel containing it. If it extinguishes the match, it is safe; if it explodes, let the oil be declared and condemned as dangerous. The rapacity or unscrupulous manufacturers or dealers should not be allowed to endanger the lives and property of honest men."

THE TEST OATH UNCONSTITUTIONAL

When the Supreme Court of the United States adjourned, several months ago, the general understanding was, that it had agreed upon the decision that the test oath was unconstitutional, but that it would not be promulgated until the present December meeting. Although that decision has not been formally promulgated, the fact that the Court last week omitted altogether the test oath, and required only the common oath to be administered, would seem to attest the correctness of the original understanding of the matter.

The importance of this decision—should the report prove to be correct—will readily be comprehended. Although the question arose in connection with attorneys practicing in that court, the decision would of course apply equally to Congress and wherever else the "iron-clad oath"—as it is familiarly termed—has been exacted. The Court is said to be divided, four for and five against its constitutionality.

VERY DOLEFUL.

A New Orleans dispatch says:

"Cotton factors here to-day have advised their correspondents in the country that it is unwise to make any preparation to plant cotton with the negro or any other kind of labor, until the course which Congress may adopt to please has become settled, and its effects may be pronounced. A feeling of very great hopelessness as to the future prevails in this community."

The people of the South may rest assured that the course of Congress will be just what the course of the South shall indicate as necessary and wise. The solution is with the people of the South—and Congress only awaits its answer to the propositions contained in the Amendment.

It would be useless to disguise that, as the natural consequence of the opposition to the Amendment shown by the South, there is a growing feeling—not only at Washington but in the country at large—in favor of commencing the work of reconstruction anew, and in doing so, of going to the bottom of the business, whether the whole power to prescribe the conditions to a territorial condition, or through some other means, is a subordinate question.

MAXIMILIAN again becomes the object of interest, concerning him there being additional and apparently authentic intelligence. He had not returned to the City of Mexico, but remained at Orizaba, and would shortly leave the country. The Liberals have the benefit of extensive advantages achieved over the French and Austrians—the details of which give rise to the suspicion that the armies of JUAREZ are deriving much benefit from an infusion of Yankeeism.

THE AMERICAN FLAG floats over the Mexican city of Matamoras—is the stirring report from the Rio Grande. Let it float—it will be the response of not a few. To what complications the movements of the flamboyant SEDGEWICK will lead, is just the point of interest. A week ago General SHERIDAN telegraphed that he "feared" SEDGEWICK would cross the Rio Grande. His fears having proved true, there will be a natural curiosity to know what was done to prevent it.

THE investigation which Mr. BOUTWELL proposes to make into the LINCOLN assassination—the escape of SURRATT—the conduct of ANDREW JOHNSON—the New Orleans riots—and the connection of darker hues of the cloud that hangs over the Administration, is likely to prove a work of vast importance—and to some, no doubt, a labor of terrible interest. It is one of the gravest matters yet agitated.

THE hopes raised by the recommendation of Governor PATTON, of Alabama, for the adoption of the Amendment, have been specially assigned by that action of the Legislature in negativing the proposition in an overwhelming vote. The Legislature has adjourned, and the Governor is reported to have congratulated them on having rejected the Amendment, and said the people would ratify their action. Truly, as the Southern people make their bed so shall they lie.

THE legality of General BUTLER'S election has been decided by the State Attorney of Massachusetts, who refused to go behind the record, which states that B. F. BUTLER, "of Gloucester," has received a majority of the votes cast. Whether the State Constitution, which requires that the representative shall be a resident of the district, is binding, belongs to another tribunal. It will probably be tested.

Capture of Surratt.

It now appears that the Government has not been remiss in regard to the capture of Surratt, the assassination conspirator, as charged by the Hon. Mr. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, and others, but that the capture has been due to the vigilance of the detective force always employed by the War Department, and which attained great proficiency during the rebellion. It was through the co-operation of the State Department that Surratt's whereabouts was first made known in October last, and his first arrest occurred under the auspices of United States Government detectives, about three weeks ago. He was vigorously followed after his escape into Italy, and when he fled to Egypt his doom was sealed, as we have a full extradition treaty with that Government. A special dispatch says that Surratt, since his capture, has told the person who informed the Government of his whereabouts, that the assassination of Lincoln was planned in Richmond with the assent of Jeff. Davis.

Revolution in Fashions.

In Paris a great revolution in fashions is spoken of as impending. No crinolines, large bonnets, short dresses, are some of the measures of this proclaimed change of dress. At present there are still crinolines to be seen, but they are of the most modest dimensions; there are short dresses in the streets, but there are sweeping trains in saloons. As to bonnets, there are bonnets!—and that is all that can be said of the smallest objects that ever have poised on the top of the largest possible enigmons! To replace these by large, advancing fronted bonnets seems an impossible attempt—but from that very reason, it will doubtless be attempted. Meanwhile there is one good deriv able from the masses of hair and coils attach to the human female's head, under the imperceptible hats of the day; that is, to prevent the in ortable colds and rheumatic pains to which they must otherwise be liable during the inclemencies of the winter season.

American Intervention in Mexico.

Intelligent observers in Mexico agree in saying that the idea is accepted among the people generally of American intervention; and with the later classes it meets with universal approval, although the love of country so deeply seated would rebel against paying for it by the loss of any part of the country. A suspicion prevails that the interest we take in Mexico has a similar purpose. The instructions to Minister Campbell may dispel this.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Recent scientific investigations tend to show that the cholera cases of 1866 are to be principally attributed to the bad condition of the water used. This was the assigned cause of cholera in London in 1853-4. The water of Paris is so bad that it is rarely drank pure, while in Vienna the people are clamoring for new reservoirs. Berlin is supplied by the exertions of an English company, and Rome is exultant over the prospect of new modern works, which will give them the pure water they need.

In the Annual Report of the Director of the Mint, he refers to an improvement made on the mode of parting gold and silver, by which $70,000 a year will be saved.

There are confined in the Chicago jail eleven men charged with various grades of homicide.

John McDevitt, of New York city, has challenged his late opponent, William Goldthwait, of Boston, to play the regular game, 1,500 points up, according to the standard regulations, for a stake of $2,500 a side. McDevitt has put up $1,250, thus making the match half forfeit.

The destitution prevailing at many points in the South, is beyond belief except to those who have witnessed it. A correspondent at Columbia, S. C., says: Several deaths have occurred recently, of which the real cause was insufficiency of food. This species of want prevails more in the adjacent country—universally here known and spoken of as the *Sand Hills*—than in the city proper. Both whites and negroes suffer this, but as yet to a limited extent. Because they are constitutionally more improvident.

The United States Circuit Court was opened in Columbia, South Carolina, last week, for the first time, we believe, since 1860. Nothing of importance was done. The Court was organized, the presentment of the grand jury, and the admission of several lawyers to practice in the Court, made the sum total of business transacted.

The New York Chamber of Commerce has passed a resolution in favor of a survey for another ocean telegraph line. It is proposed to have the American end of the line on Long Island or Cape Cod, and the other at some point on the French coast.

One of the largest wool factories in England has recently established an agency in South Carolina, Mr. Trenchard, of Charleston, is the agent; and he is engaged in a tour over the interior for the purpose of purchasing the wool on hand, and forming contracts for future production—organizing, that is to say, a wool trade in the States.

Two thousand head of Texas cattle reached Columbus, Ohio, on Thursday last. The herd numbered four thousand when it left Texas, and lost about one half by disease and accident on the way.

During the month of November, sixty-six emigrant vessels of all classes arrived at New York from Europe, bringing 3 111 cabin and 17,863 steerage passengers, making a total of 20,967 souls. On the voyage there were 18 births and 227 deaths, the latter including 200 of the steerage passengers. The also bought 2,0 barrels of pork, on option, last month, from Mr. P. Hutchinson. Pork, since this transaction, has met with a heavy decline, and the difference is estimated at $1,000. The above, however, are only a part of the late successful swindling operation.

"The taste for horse flesh," says the *France*, "is decidedly increasing in Paris. There are at present in the capital seven butcheries for the sale of that commodity, and which dispose of about 40,000 pounds per week. The annual consumption may therefore be estimated at 1,920 tons or more than ten times the quantity of meat distributed to the poor in the twenty *bureaux de bienfaisance*. The butchers thus have exempt from the octroi duty, and sells at from five sous to one franc the kilogramme of two pounds."

The expenditures in the department of the Cincinnati Board of City Improvements during the month of November, amounted to $17,500 91.

PERSONAL.

—Empress Eugenie seems to have given up the idea of paying a visit of condolence to the Pope in Rome, before the French shall evacuate the city. Her health increased with the loss of their immense property in Venetia, rule now the Vatican. They treat everything with undisguised indignation which comes in contact with Napoleon. Their revolution has proved to be irrevocable. The Empress was told that she could hardly expect a friendly reception in the Vatican.

—It has been humorously reckoned that the Pope has lost by the revolution in Italy no less than eighty-nine millions. Thus provided Trinity Church were made to disgorge, each pair would have four dollars. It is obviously better to own a share in the opera house bills.

—The fashionable season has been inaugurated in New York by several brilliant entertainments, foremost among which was that given by L. W. Jerome, the distinguished leader in sporting circles. Mr. Jerome is not a married man, and therefore, as "the first bachelor" in he is rich, owns a private opera house, lodges in horses in a palace, and drives four in hand, so why should not marriageable young ladies put on their best tib and tucker and their sweetest smile to win him? Better than a score of them did not indeed? There are two kinds of entertainments in vogue this season, one consisting of the various kinds of wedding celebrations—"Pa," "Crystal," "China," "Silver," and "Gold" &c., &c., and the other parties, more properly calls, which careful parents allow their daughters to attend, but which, notwithstanding their "private" and "respectable" character, give opportunities to designing men in the fashionable "parlors" calmly asleep at home in their comfortable beds have little idea.

—The defense of Mr. Algernon Swinburne meets with a rather cool reception in London, and the *Revieiw* even says of it: "He exhausts the latitude of waywardness, and recruits himself in a riot of blasphemy."

—Rev. Dr. Dix, of New York, said in a late sermon that he could mention an insurance company with a property of $44,000 000, and at the present time there was in that city who were worth $50,000,000 each.

—During the recent performance of "Crispin, at Paris, in which Patti had a great success, two gentlemen fell into a dispute about her artistic merits. One of the disputants, a knight of industry, challenged his opponent, at the other but did not hit him. They were taken before a magistrate. After explaining the matter, the Mexican said: "I have told your Excellency the whole truth about it, and I hope your Excellency will believe it." Perhaps "His Excellency" was not a little astounded at this proposition, and informed the Mexican that "what you call, in America, *enforcing an execution*, is not the custom in this country of *execution*, and that under such circumstances we send people to prison." The Mexican went to prison.

—Vinnie Ream, that sprightly, black tressed maiden whom Congress empowered at the close of last session to execute a statuette in marble of Lincoln, is preparing to sail for Naples in the spring, in fulfillment of her commission. Meantime she is chiseling industriously at heads and busts of living and departed statesmen, and already has quite an array of plaster casts at her rooms on exhibition in the old Hall of Representatives.

Population of Ohio Cities.

The Columbus *Journal* gives the present population of the cities and towns of Ohio, as indicated by the vote of 1866, together with the population in 1860, as follows:

	1866.	1860.
Cincinnati	193,940	161,044
Cleveland	57,297	43,417
Columbus	21,259	18,554
Dayton	20,152	20,081
Toledo	27,683	13,768
Zanesville	12,275	9,229
Sandusky	11,823	8,408
Hamilton	11,702	7,222
Springfield	11,414	7,002
Xenia	10,855	4,658
Chillicothe	9,068	7,626
Portsmouth	8,933	6,268
Steubenville	8,489	6,104
Akron	7,429	3,477
Newark	6,976	4,955
Piqua	6,787	4,616
Mansfield	6,685	4,531
Canton	6,514	4,441
Tiffin	6,229	3,992
Marietta	5,427	4,325
Lancaster	5,010	4,030
Ironton	4,511	3,691
Gallipolis	3,289	3,518

Americans in Paris—Costly Living.

Many American families who have gone to Paris thinking they would be able to obtain house accommodations for the coming Exhibition on advantageous terms, are unfortunately undeceived by finding that from that fatal first of April no previous engagements will stand good, and fresh terms proportionately high with the demand for them, will have to be submitted to. The proprietors of the United States, who has been for months domiciled at the Grand Hotel and fully expected to be able to retain his present suite of rooms, &c., &c., on endeavoring to make arrangements for that purpose, he was quietly informed that all prices would be raised five-and-twenty per cent. from the end of March.

THE IMPEACHMENT OF JOHNSON.—A Washington letter says: "The action of the Republican caucus of the House, last evening, is regarded by the leading Senators as clear proof that no special committee will be raised at present to inquire as to the expediency of moving to impeach the President. The reports of the South Carolina and New Orleans committees may have something to do with the matter at a later period of the session."

ORTEGA.—This aspiring Mexican is at Brazos Santiago, under guard. His object was to enter Tamaulipas and create a revolution with the view of becoming President in the place of Juarez, when the French left. The circumstance shows plainly what will be the condition of Mexico when she is left to herself. Too generally the people are ready to start for the man who puts forth the loudest sounding and longest manifesto.

REDUCTION IN RAILROAD FREIGHT.—The Chicago *Republican* of Saturday says: "We learn this evening that a new railroad tariff will be issued to-morrow (Saturday, the 8th inst.) in which rates eastward—to New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore—will be reduced 15c per 100 lbs on fourth class.

Over fifty six thousand acres of land were disposed of at Brownsville, Nebraska and the Iron-ton, Missouri, land offices, during the month of November.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

Second Session.

WASHINGTON, December 4, 1866.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 12 o'clock. Prayer was offered by the chaplain. The journal of yesterday was read.

Mr SUMNER gave notice that he would introduce a joint resolution declaring the true principles of Reconstruction, the jurisdiction of Congress over the whole subject, the illegality of the Governments in the rebel States, and the existing of such States with which legal Governments from representation in Congress and from voting on the Constitutional Amendment.

Mr. WILSON presented two petitions from officers of the army, asking an increase of pay.

Mr. PATERSON presented two petitions, asking for pensions to certain widows.

Mr. HANDLER offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the Senate what amount of money had been paid out of the Secret Service Fund since March last, for the District of Columbia, for advertising for Executive Departments, and what the number and character of the advertisements for which it was paid, and who directed it to be paid; also whether and in what manner the contract for said advertising was awarded, and if performed, how it was performed. He thought it time that it was a scandals and distinct, and that the people should know how the public money was squandered. He had great fears that proceedings had been had under that act in relation to the payment of money to persons who had been in rebellion, under the confiscation act of 1862. He had been informed that large sums had been recently paid for secret service, which he believed to be for the purpose of purchasing property forfeited under the confiscation act. He was intensely excited in the matter, and desired to know whether the fears that he had were well founded. He hoped that the resolution would be agreed to.

Mr. HENDERSON thought it was time that the people should know how the public money was squandered. He hoped that the resolution would be agreed to.

Mr. HOWARD said he was not aware that there was any secret service fund appropriated by law. He presumed that the President had the patronage power, and could exercise it. He understood the act of 1862 could do no such thing. The bill was to prevent the unlawful disposition of property, and to punish those who had been in rebellion, under the confiscation act of 1862. He had been informed that the President had unnecessarily for several months past been in the habit of pardoning rebels, and restoring to them their property forfeited under the confiscation act. He was intensely excited in the matter, and desired to know whether the fact was true. If it was, he hoped that the President would take immediate action to prevent the further issuing of pardons. He had been requested to call the attention of the Senate to this matter, and he did so. He was not prepared to say how the Senate should proceed in the matter, but he would say to the Senator from Michigan that this was not a question of so easy a solution as he seemed to think it was. The Senate would have a very good effect upon the difficulty that was spoken of. The repeal of the proclamation of August 1862 could do no good, but would rather increase the difficulty, if possible. He was in favor of the resolution. He was entirely prepared to say how it should be answered, but by that provision that was contained in the confiscation act of 1862, which declared that the pardoned rebels were incapable for three years to hold any office. He hoped that the Senate would not be in a hurry to act upon the resolution, but he would say to the Senator from Michigan that this was not a question of so easy a solution as he seemed to think it was. The Senate would have a very good effect upon the difficulty that was spoken of. The repeal of the proclamation of August 1862 could do no good, but would rather increase the difficulty, if possible. He was in favor of the resolution. He was entirely prepared to say how it should be answered, but by that provision that was contained in the confiscation act of 1862, which declared that the pardoned rebels were incapable for three years to hold any office. He hoped that the Senate would not be in a hurry to act upon the resolution, but he would say to the Senator from Michigan that this was not a question of so easy solution as he seemed to think it was. The Senate would have a very good effect upon the difficulty that was spoken of. The repeal of the proclamation of August 1862 could do no good, but would rather increase the difficulty, if possible. He was in favor of the resolution. He was entirely prepared to say how it should be answered, but by that provision that was contained in the confiscation act of 1862, which declared that the pardoned rebels were incapable for three years to hold any office. He hoped that the Senate would not be in a hurry to act upon the resolution, but he would say to the Senator from Michigan that this was not a question of so easy a